THE TIMES

35P

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'Reputation and integrity matter most'

Sotheby's to review code of conduct

BY STEPHEN FARRELL AND DALYA ALBERGE

SOTHEBY'S announced a far-reaching review of its procedures last night in response to allegations that it smuggled art treasures to Britain and rigged auctions.

The auction house has set up an independent panel to examine the firm's practices, particularly its international dealings, and a new director has been appointed to look over the company's rules and procedures. The review board will be advised by British and American lawyers.

The inquiry was set up after a special meeting of the board of Sotheby's Holdings and two visits to London by the company's American president and chief executive, Diana Brooks, to investigate claims that Sotheby's Old Masters expert in Milan arranged to smuggle an 18th-century painting to London last year.

Roeland Kollewijn was suspended last week after the allegations were published in *The Times* and broadcast on Channel 4's *Despatches* programme, and yesterday it was confirmed that he had resigned. George Gordon, a senior director in Sotheby's Old Masters department in London, remains suspended.

The *Despatches* programme was based on an investigation by the journalist Peter Watson, whose book *Sotheby's: The Inside Story* was serialised in *The Times*. It alleged that Sotheby's attitude encouraged the looting of ancient religious sites in India and the smuggling of artefacts from Italy to Switzerland and thence to Britain.

Sotheby's European managing director George Bailey took personal control of the internal investigation that followed, but the company's response to the crisis was supervised by Mrs Brooks.

She addressed staff at the New Bond Street auction rooms last night and sent a letter to all the company's 1,600 staff worldwide, telling them: "The reputation and integrity of Sotheby's are the two things that matter the most to all of us. You are fully aware of our high expectations of you and it is our experience that you live up to them with integrity and judgement."

At the same time, the board issued a statement saying: "The board has created a committee of Sotheby's independent directors. They will conduct an internal review of the firm's practices and review the firm's compliance and its strict code of conduct. The committee will ... focus in particular on international trade issues and auction room practices."

The company has also appointed a director of compliance to work alongside the existing internal audit department in a review of its rules and procedures.

"Our management believe that the house rules for Sotheby's employees are the most stringent in the industry. They will, however, be reviewed and, if appropriate, reinforced." Training would also be strengthened to ensure the highest ethical standards.

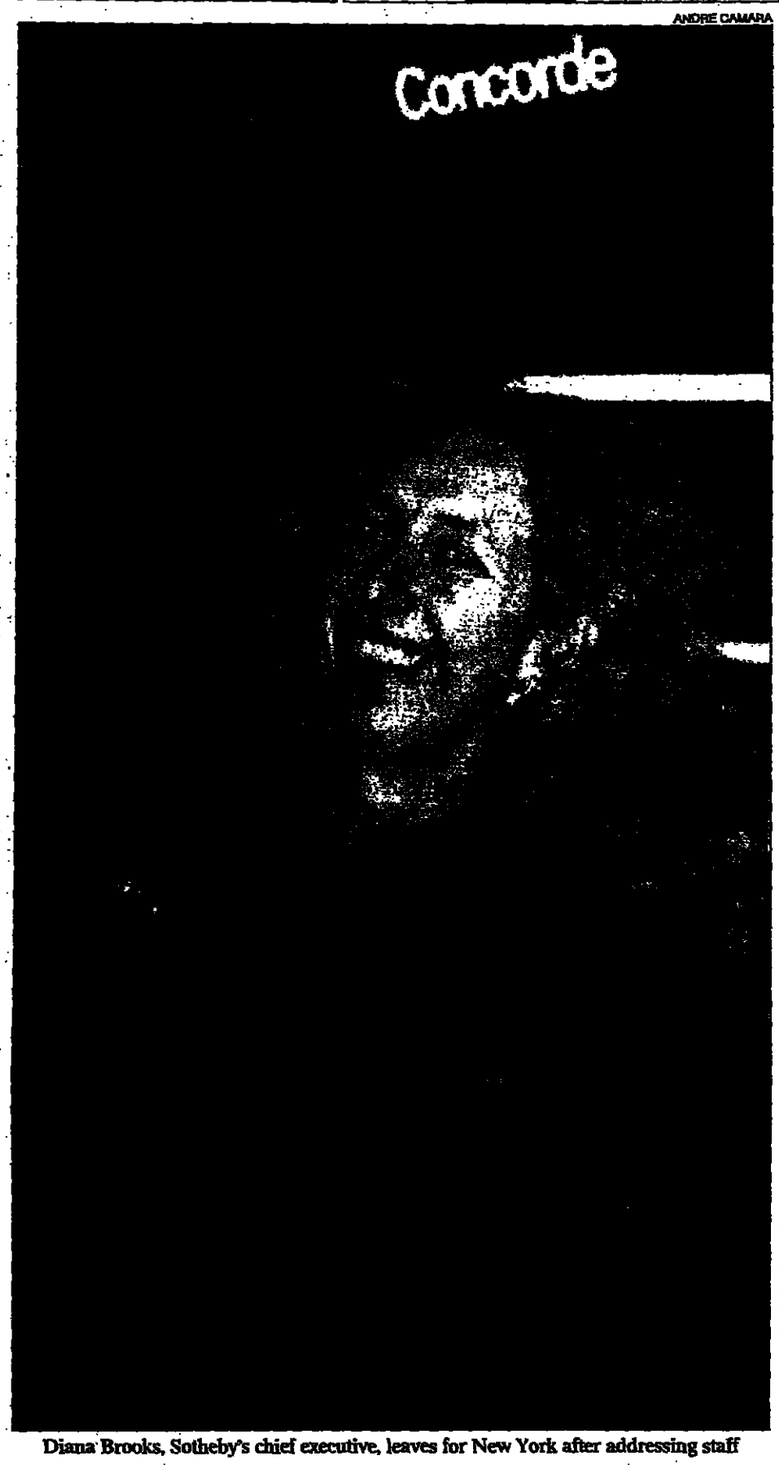
The announcement was welcomed by Sir Hugh Leggatt, a former member of the Museums and Galleries Commission. But he said: "I don't think the blame for all the hanky panky should be lain at Sotheby's feet. They aren't the only ones. The Government and all governments have, out of greed, run away from problems. It's almost certain that Sotheby's will rectify this problem, but it will rise again because the Government never takes action itself."

General Roberto Conforti, of the carabinieri's art theft division, also repeated his belief that the smuggling of Nogari's *Old Woman With a Cup* was only part of a wholesale "haemorrhage" of artworks from Italy. General Conforti, who is investigating at least 100 other cases, said that the Getty Museum of California, for example, had a number of paintings which had "bypassed the normal channels", even though the museum itself was not accused of doing anything illegal. Such works are believed to include the $10 million Rubens *Death of Samson*.

"If the Channel 4 claims are true, this is the first time to my knowledge that an auction house like Sotheby's has been involved as a more or less direct channel for smuggling works of art," General Conforti said. "On the other hand, my men have frequently recovered stolen or illegally acquired works from the head offices of Sotheby's and Christies in London."

Letters, page 17

ANDRE CAMARA



Diana Brooks, Sotheby's chief executive, leaves for New York after addressing staff

IRA bombing fears put Westminster on the alert

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND NICHOLAS WATT

SECURITY measures at Westminster have been tightened after a warning that the Houses of Parliament could be the target of an attack by the IRA.

Access restrictions have been imposed on the 4,000 staff working in the Lords and Commons after security chiefs suggested that terrorists have been carrying out covert surveillance operations in preparation for a bomb attack in the lead-up to the election.

As the measures were put in place yesterday, terrorists planted a 1,000lb bomb in Strabane, Co Tyrone. The RUC said that the bomb, which was left on a housing estate close to a hotel and an old people's home, was designed to kill members of the security forces and any passing civilians. Police were alerted to the bomb when the IRA issued a telephone warning on Sunday that it had planted a device on the A5 out of Strabane.

There have been warnings that the IRA might strike at the Commons as the Irish National Liberation Army did shortly before the 1979 election. One of Margaret Thatcher's closest allies, Airey Neave, was killed when a bomb planted in his car exploded as he was driving out of the underground car-park.

Under the new measures, staff at the Palace of Westminster have been stopped from entering on foot by the Carriage Gates, the main entrance for cars. They will have to go through security barriers. Random checking of passholders and the searching of their bags will be intensified.

Betty Boothroyd, the Commons Speaker, approved the new measures after an MI5 warning that the IRA was taking an interest in the Palace. It has been suggested that IRA "sleepers" posing as tourists have been taking photographs of the building.

In a letter to all staff at Parliament last night, Peter Jennings, the Serjeant at Arms, who is charge of security, said that measures were being introduced or reinforced "because the Palace of Westminster remains at a high level of threat from the Provisional IRA".

He said the IRA "will be keen to gather whatever targeting information it can; especially concerning our security measures, including closed-circuit TV coverage, access arrangements and patrols".

MPs and peers will still be allowed to enter Parliament on foot by the main gates.

Superintendent Mervyn Hood of the RUC said that yesterday's Strabane bomb was primed and ready to be detonated. "Had the device exploded the hotel would have been very, very bady damaged. The old people's home would certainly have had glass damage," he said.

In a separate incident, army bomb disposal experts defused a Mk 16 mortar yesterday which was fired at a police car in Pomeroy, Co Tyrone, on Sunday night. Three police officers in the car suffered minor injuries.

The IRA attacks came as Mr Adams called on Mr Major to allow Sinn Fein to meet government officials to discuss the party's entry to the Stormont talks.

In a fax to Downing Street, Gerry Adams, the Sinn Fein President, urged the Prime Minister not to allow the general election to hold up the peace process.

Fourth Ashworth staff suspension

A consultant psychiatrist at the top-security Ashworth Hospital is the fourth member of staff to be suspended after allegations that pornography was found and a child smuggled in and abused. It was also disclosed that a junior health minister asked hospital managers last year about the claims and was told that they were unfounded ..... Page 2

National Express buys ScotRail

Coach operator National Express has won the ScotRail franchise, the last major network privatisation and the company's fourth rail acquisition. The service includes the Fort William sleeper, which was reprieved in 1995 after British Rail threatened to close it ..... Page 25

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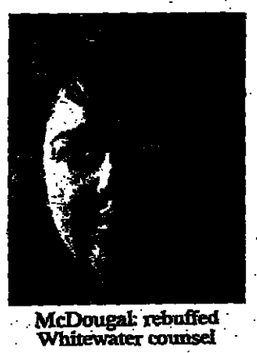
Clinton had affair with my wife, claims banker

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

JIM McDOUGAL, who was Bill and Hillary Clinton's partner in the Whitewater project, is claiming that his former wife Susan will not co-operate with prosecutors because she had an affair with the President.

The charge is the focus of new inquiries by Kenneth Starr, the independent counsel, into a possible motive for President Clinton's alleged involvement in an illegal loan when he was Governor of Arkansas. It follows signals from Mr Starr's office that he was weighing the consequences of indicting the President, Mrs Clinton and senior White House aides involved in the scandals surrounding the Administration. Mrs McDougal is serving an 18-month sentence for civil contempt charges. She had refused last year to answer questions before the grand jury in Little Rock about whether Mr Clinton gave truthful testimony at the Whitewater trial of herself, her former husband and Jim Guy Tucker, the President's successor as Governor.



McDougal: rebuffed Whitewater counsel

Mr McDougal, who owned Madison Guaranty, the bank at the heart of the Whitewater affair, claims that she has remained silent, handcuffed and locked in her cell as a result of the affair in the 1980s.

"I think Susan has gone to enormous lengths, and personally damaged herself, attempting to suppress discussion of this matter," Mr McDougal told the *New York Post* yesterday.

Whitewater inquiry, page 11

Marriage guidance teams in schools

BY DAVID CHARTER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

SCHOOL pupils are to receive lessons from marriage guidance counsellors in a project which organisers hope will help to cut the divorce rate.

Relate, the former Marriage Guidance Council, has teamed up with four local authorities in a project funded by the Department of Health to develop its new relationship education course for teenagers.

All schoolchildren receive personal and social education but Relate counsellors will train teachers to give lessons on topics ranging from conflict management to the effects of divorce in the family.

Ros Bourne, the director of Relate for Nottinghamshire, one of the trial authorities, said yesterday: "We may not see any difference in the short term, but ultimately it should go some way towards reversing the rising numbers of divorce."

She added: "If we build the bricks now, hopefully the house will be standing in 60 years time."

Relate said that it wanted to help teachers to provide personal and social education for pupils aged 15 and 16 because many have not had specific training for it.

Students' and teachers' reaction to the scheme will be monitored by the Relate Centre for Family Studies at Newcastle University before the final scheme is written and offered to schools nationally.

10,000 years in Provence for cavemen

BY NORMAN HAMMOND
ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

IT WAS the longest holiday anyone has ever enjoyed. For ten thousand years, as the Ice Age gripped Britain, the population fled to the South of France.

Between 23,000 and 13,000 years ago, archaeologists have concluded, the country was virtually empty. The period was the coldest spell in a long succession of ice ages, and it proved too much even for the hardy people then inhabiting Britain.

Although the country had been continuously occupied since the time of Boxgrove Man half a million years ago, conditions finally became too extreme, Dr Rupert Housley of Glasgow University told an English Heritage conference at the weekend.

In winter, temperatures would have been constantly sub-zero, while summer would have been marked by rain and snow. Faced with such conditions, people preferred the more temperate climates of southern France and northern Spain, where they created the famous cave paintings of Lascaux and Altamira.

"We can trace the return of these natives by looking at the carbon dates for renewed occupations through northern France and across what later became the English Channel," Dr Housley said. "Fifteen thousand years ago they were in the Dordogne, a thousand years later people had moved up into Switzerland, and by about 12,600 years ago they finally made it back into Britain, the most northerly territory that had seen human occupation before."

Dr Bryan Sykes of Oxford University told the conference that studies of mitochondrial DNA, the form passed down through the maternal line, showed that 85 per cent of a sample of people from all parts of Europe had a common Ice Age ancestry. His data suggests that this common ancestor lived around 20-25,000 years ago, at least 20,000 years after modern man first entered Europe from the Middle East.

"We've just bought a lovely little cave in Provence"

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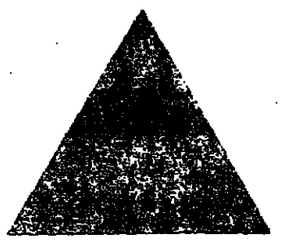
Men at work.



(See above).

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Dancing partners take the floor by storm

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

"As my noble friend well knows, it takes *two* to ..."

Baroness Chalker of Wallasey paused, tantalisingly. Could she, would she, dare she say "tango"? With Lady Chalker it might take two to tango, but it would take four to clear the wreckage from the dance floor. A substantial baroness in a substantial green plaid two-piece suit of car-rug design, Lady Chalker occupied a place on the government front bench in the Lords yesterday a yard from Baroness Trumpington — an older baroness built on similarly monumental lines.

Lady Chalker, Minister for Overseas Development, is known in her department as "the African Queen" and revered among the tribes of the Great Lakes as a great white benefactress and semi-deity. Lady Trumpington, beside whom the late Margaret Rutherford appeared wimpish, is affectionately known by fellow-whips as Trumpers. Two big ladies. The thought of them tangoing with each other was distracting, the thought of either tangoing with anyone else, terrible.

"... to organise a ceasefire." Our faces fell. The lady was not for tangoing.

The bishops, however, were. Often hesitant on the great issues of our day, especially at home, bishops in the Lords leap to life whenever the troubled zone is more than about 3,000 miles away. The more distant the walls of Jericho, the more certain the sound of the trumpet. Baroness Cox had asked about conflict in the Sudan, and most of the bishops' bench began fidgeting in their white frocks, anxious to intervene.

The Bishop of Ripon, the Rt Rev David Young, told Lady Chalker how worried he was about the Sudan. Lady Chalker said we all were. The Bishop of Lichfield, the Rt Rev Keith Sutton, said it was really a matter of African leadership, as he had learnt when in East Africa, training the Sudanese for the priesthood.

Lady Chalker resisted the temptation to say it was sure as heck a matter of African leadership — there wasn't any. Instead, she droned away in that strange amalgam of Brussels commissariat-speak and Roedean headgirl-speak she has made her own, and which is probably better understood in the Anglican hierarchy than anywhere else in Britain. If the thought Lynda Chalker had meant to express really had been that it takes two to tango, she would have read from her tidy notes: "The effective execution of an Argentine-negro dance-pattern with Parisian developments in four-four time requires a dual ongoing human resource commitment in a contemporaneous two-person situation."

During these exchanges your sketchwriter became aware of an unusual undercurrent. Peers were restive. Peers were fractious. Whenever more than one of their number wished to speak, a great muttering would arise among them as to which should be first. They seemed in truculent mood. Can it be that their many recent rebellions, the enhanced reputation as troublemakers these have earned, and the (for many) novel experience of being quoted in the daily newspapers, have gone slightly to their lordships' noble heads? Are we witnessing the birth of Peers with Attitude?

As I left, Lord Monkswell (Lab) was commending his Dignity at Work Bill. It is designed to outlaw bullying in the workplace. Such a measure is unlikely to find favour among the Tory whips in the House of Commons.

Lord Monkswell had a luxuriant beard and what seemed to be blow-dried hair, in a fine mane. "What kind of a peer is he?" I asked one of his colleagues in the lobby.

"Nuts."

Psychiatrist at Ashworth Hospital suspended

By Philip Webster and Russell Jenkins

A CONSULTANT psychiatrist has become the fourth member of staff at Ashworth Hospital to be suspended after the discovery of pornography and allegations that a child was smuggled in and sexually abused. Dr Ian Strickland was in charge of the ward in which child pornography, cannabis, alcohol and weapons were found last month.

It has also emerged that Simon Burns, a junior Health Minister, questioned senior managers at the Liverpool top-security hospital in October about press allegations that had just begun to surface, and was told that they were unfounded.

Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, announced the latest suspension in a Commons statement. The other members of staff, including Janice Mills, the hospital's chief executive, were suspended on Friday when the allegations were made public.

Mr Dorrell told MPs that the inquiry into claims that a paedophile ring was operating at the hospital's Personality Disorder Unit, which holds some of the country's most dangerous offenders, would report within a year. He said the allegations were "extremely serious" and action taken on Friday was aimed at reassuring the public the hospital was properly managed and patients were receiving a high standard of care.

He said allegations about drug misuse, financial irregularities, the availability of pornographic material and possible paedophile activity had been made by a patient, Stephen Daggett, last October. Despite a search on January 17, which found "a large amount of pornographic material", the hospital continued to maintain that press reports about what was going on in the Personality Disorder Unit were unfounded.

The new acting chief executive, sent into the hospital yesterday, is Erville Millar, formerly chief executive of the Lambeth Health Care Trust. He has forbidden children to visit wards in the hospital and in future they will only be allowed to visit under strict supervision and by prior arrangement. Visitors to the hospital will no longer be able to walk unescorted around the grounds and former patients will be barred.

He said his job was to restore public confidence in the secure hospital, to take stock of its clinical regime and to liaise with both the police investigation and the judicial inquiry. He said staff "look forward to an inquiry looking into all these issues."

Mr Dorrell said that the report of the inquiry, led by the recently-retired senior circuit judge, Peter Fallon, QC, would be published.

Tessa Jowell, Labour health spokesman, said the revelations exposed "the dreadful inadequacy of the monitoring systems which are supposed to ensure safety at high-security hospitals".

PETER TRIEVNOR

Flint, former head of Royal College of Midwives, was sued with a colleague

Home birth midwives to pay £840,000 in damages

By Jeremy Laurance, Health Correspondent

THE former president of the Royal College of Midwives yesterday agreed to pay £840,000 damages to a six-year-old boy who was brain damaged at birth.

Caroline Flint, head of the college for three years until last December, was sued with her colleague Valerie Taylor over a home birth they attended in 1991. The two independent midwives, who run the Special Midwifery Practice in south London, agreed to pay the damages to Margaret Baber, 46, whose son, Guy, was born with cerebral palsy.

Mrs Baber began her labour at home in north London, attended by the two midwives, but was later transferred to hospital where the baby was delivered by forceps. Medical experts called on behalf of Guy said that Ms Flint and Ms Taylor failed to heed, or ignored, clear warning signs of foetal distress. If they had used continuous foetal heart monitoring, it was more likely than not that much earlier intervention would have occurred with the delivery of an undamaged baby two hours before he was actually born, Laura Cox, QC, counsel for Guy, said.

The midwives' case, also supported by medical experts, was that labour seemed to be progressing well and there was nothing untoward until 20 minutes before delivery. They denied liability and claimed that continuous monitoring would have made no difference. The £840,000 will be paid by the midwives' insurers.

Tories deny split over Scottish parliament

By Jill Sherman and Gillian Bowditch

MICHAEL FORSYTH last night moved to try to cover up a split within the Tory party over their tactics on Labour's plans for a Scottish parliament. The Scottish Secretary gave a warning that a Labour assembly "is not just for Christmas, it's for life".

The move came after a suggestion by Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, that a Tory government would scrap a Scottish parliament after it was set up.

Tony Blair claimed the remarks showed the Tories were in complete "chaos and confusion" on the issue.

Over recent months Mr Forsyth has argued that the Tories would be unable to dismantle a Scottish parliament once it was set up. Yesterday Mr Forsyth denied that he was at odds with Mr Dorrell.

He told Radio 4's *The World at One*: "A Scottish parliament is not just for Christmas it's for life. And it would grow into a creature which might do enormous damage in Scotland, but we would have to live with the consequence of it."

In an interview with *The Scotsman* on Monday, Mr Dorrell was asked whether the best way to preserve the Union was to get rid of a Scottish Parliament," Mr Dorrell said: "Yes absolutely."

But yesterday Mr Dorrell appeared to backtrack from his remarks. He insisted that he did not use the word "abolish" but said that if a Tory government inherited a position where there were changes that were possible that would reduce the strain on the Union, "it would have to consider them".

Blair puts party right on jobs for life row

Tony Blair yesterday told his frontbench team to set the record straight over his plans to tackle job insecurity with four or five-year contracts. He was upset at reports that Labour was to offer public sector unions a new "jobs for life contract", resurrecting memories of the old social pact with the unions under the last Labour government.

William Waldegrave, the Treasury Chief Secretary, said Labour was trying "to set the clock back". "They try to say something which is pleasant for the public sector unions and contradict it with another message for the markets."

Lib Dem's reform call

The Liberal Democrats called on Labour to hold a referendum on electoral reform early in a first Parliament so that any change could be implemented in time for the following election. The demands will be put forward today at a meeting of the Lib Dem-Labour working party on electoral reform. The committee is due to report this month but the eight members are said to be split.

£60m prescription fraud

Prescription fraud costs £60 million a year, the Health Department said yesterday. A government inquiry to examine ways of stemming the losses has identified some of the commonest frauds as pharmacists claiming reimbursement for false prescriptions and pocketing the difference between the prescription charge of £5.50 and the cost of the drugs when these are lower.

Too hot for penguins

Penguin populations in Antarctica are being wiped out as warmer temperatures destroy their habitats, according to Greenpeace. Numbers on the Antarctic peninsula have fallen from 15,200 breeding pairs 20 years ago to 9,200 pairs today, a report says. Warmer weather hits Adelie penguins by melting the sea ice that forms their preferred winter habitat, and increases snowfall, burying nesting sites.

Jury out on Howells

The jury in the Eve Howells murder trial was sent home last night after considering their verdicts all day. The members will resume their deliberations today. David Howells, 48, a maintenance fitter, and his sons Glenn, 17, and John, 16, have denied murdering Mrs Howells at their home in Huddersfield, west Yorkshire, on August 31 1995. Glenn has admitted manslaughter.

The Sweet singer dies

Brian Connolly, the singer of the 1970s glam rock band The Sweet, has died, aged 52. Connolly, whose hits included *Blockbuster*, *Ballroom Blitz* and *Wig-Wam Bam*, died of renal failure in hospital in Slough. He had had several heart attacks since 1981. The Sweet sold 50 million records worldwide. Connolly left in 1979 but his solo career was dogged by ill health. **Obituary, page 19**

E. coli outbreak grows

Two new cases of *E. coli* have been reported in Arbroath, bringing the number of cases in the most recent outbreak to ten. An 83-year-old female resident of a nursing home was admitted to hospital in Dundee and a nurse at the home tested positive for the bacterium. One elderly woman has already died and three more people are in hospital. All but three of the cases have stemmed from the nursing home.

Man held for murder

An Englishman was last night being questioned by Irish police about the murder of the French film producer Sophie Toscan du Plantier, right, who was found dead on a remote lane in Cork at Christmas. The man, aged 40, was arrested at his run-down cottage in Dunmanus West near Skull shortly after 10am yesterday. His girlfriend, also English, was arrested shortly afterwards.

Floods hit Scotland

Rivers in Scotland burst their banks yesterday after a day of torrential rain and winds of up to 60mph. Parts of Dumfries, Gretna Green and Annan were under water. Dumfries and Galloway police said: "There have been serious problems virtually all along the Solway coast." The Leven burst its banks in Dumbarton. **Forecast, page 24**

Millennium countdown

Churches of all denominations are to begin the countdown to the year 2000 with a "service of preparation" on the Sunday after Easter, the thousandth day before the millennium. The service was produced by Churches Together in England out of concern that if churches do not play a greater role, an opportunity for mission will be lost.

Border control row looms

By James Landale, Political Reporter

THE European Commission insisted yesterday that it will press ahead with its plans to scrap Britain's veto over European immigration and border control policy.

Anita Gradin, the Home Affairs Commissioner, said that the Brussels executive would back the proposal at a summit in June despite the Government's opposition. She claimed that organised crime was flourishing in the European Union because member states were not co-operating fully on border controls.

At present joint policies in sensitive areas are decided on an intergovernmental basis, which means they can be blocked if any one country objects. Under the Commission's plans, immigration and border controls would come under EU jurisdiction, with decisions made by qualified majority voting. Britain would be able to block a policy only if it had the support of several other countries.

Tory Eurosceptics condemned the plan and the Foreign Office said: "The Government would not accept this move and we have made that clear."

But Mrs Gradin, speaking in London, said that the intergovernmental approach to European home affairs had not worked. Only Britain opposed the new plans and the failure of countries to reach agreement on key policies could "destroy the common goal of integrating with each other".

Weak border controls had allowed a modern slave trade to develop, with women being smuggled into the EU and forced into prostitution, she said. "It is not effective to take action in one country alone. There has to be co-operation to tackle this sort of crime."

Land for homes challenged

By Ian Murray, Community Correspondent

AN ENTIRE county is to become a test case in a campaign that aims to force the Government to change its strategy for finding the land to build the 4.4 million new homes that will be needed over the next two decades.

The battle between the planners and conservationists is to be joined in West Sussex, where the Environment Department wants 58,000 homes built by 2011. The county is prepared to accept no more than 47,000 and the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England wants even fewer. A public meeting tonight at Horsham will launch the campaign before the start of the official examination in public of the rival cases next week.

The examination, held before a panel of two including an inspector and a former county planning officer, will hear evidence from local authorities, the CPRE, the Wildfowl Trust and representatives of different developers. The hearings will last about two weeks with a final report due in May. The Government can ignore the conclusion if it is in favour of the county, but it will have to give clear reasons why it is doing so. In similar earlier cases Bedfordshire, Berkshire and Kent all failed to persuade the department to let them build fewer houses than laid down by the Government's regional planning guidance. Bedfordshire must build 2,100 more than it wants, Berkshire and Kent have to build an extra 3,000 each.

Seven other counties also want their allocation cut, and are looking to West Sussex as a test case. More than half the county is designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

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Prison electronics lessons spawned cashpoint scam

By Daniel McGrory

A FRAUDSTER who took electronics lessons while in prison used his skills to milk cash dispensers in what police described as an almost perfect fraud.

Mindy Fairchild, 32, built a secret camera to film bank customers as they entered their security numbers and also tampered with the cash machines so that they retained the cards. When the customers went into the banks to complain, Fairchild retrieved their cards and plundered their accounts.

Detectives estimated that Fairchild made more than £100,000. Sentencing him to five years' jail yesterday, Judge Bray said: "You were playing for high stakes and you lost."

Police and banks were concerned last night not to disclose too much of Fairchild's ingenious operation. The judge said: "If your methods were copied they could put at risk the whole cashpoint system in this country."

Northampton Crown Court was told that Fairchild had dreamed up the fraud to raise money to bribe Malaysian authorities to provide British residency qualifications for his Malaysian wife, Mui, and her 12-year-old son. Mrs Fairchild, 39, who had been living in Britain illegally, was arrested with him in Enfield.

She was jailed for 12 months after admitting two counts of theft, and walked hand in hand with her husband from the dock. She was released later because she had served 18 months on remand, but was told that she faced deportation.

Mui Fairchild: in dock with her husband

Her husband admitted 18 specimen counts of theft, three charges of attempted theft and going equipped for theft. Judge Bray ordered the couple's financial assets to seized.

The court was told that Fairchild had bought most of his equipment from high street stores and put it together at his home in Wellingborough, which police said had been turned into an electronics factory. He had a mock-up of a cash dispenser to help him to perfect the position of his camera.

The camera was hidden inside a one-inch deep false panel attached to the side of cash machines, which to the unsuspecting appeared only to be advertising what credit cards could be used. Near the bottom of the ten by six inch panel was a hole through which the camera monitored the keypad. There was also room inside for a transmitter. Fairchild sat near by in his car with a receiver and a video screen, on which the camera picture was shown, fitted into a briefcase.

He also doctored the machines with a device known as a Lebanese Loop, which fitted over the mouth of the card slot and retained cards. The machine was rigged so that the screen would tell customers there was a problem with their card and they should contact their branch. When they left, Fairchild retrieved the card and, with the identity number, withdrew money at will.

Fairchild, who changed his name from Mahinder Singh Rupal to "sound more English", operated on banks throughout London and the Home Counties. He was trapped by a surveillance operation, which detectives began after receiving a tip-off.

He was arrested last June while using a cash dispenser in Enfield, north London, while he had £2,500 in cash. He had only recently been released from a ten-month sentence for stealing credit cards, after employing the crude approach of simply watching customers tap in their numbers.

Detectives believe that he made more than £100,000. Money was traced to five bank accounts and a police source said last night: "He could have a whole lot more well hidden."

The court was told that Fairchild lived modestly in a terraced house he had bought for £24,000 after being freed from prison. His barrister, David Newbury, told the court: "The house was in a poor area so it's not as if the benefits of the fraud have meant that he lived a champagne lifestyle."

Mr Newbury described Fairchild as a "shrewd and intelligent man but one who was not able to succeed in life in the usual way". Despite his gift for electronics, he could find only poorly paid work.

The tiny hole in the fake panel made by Mindy Fairchild, through which cashpoints were filmed

Louise Woodward in a photograph she had sent to her mother from America

Baby's death leaves nanny facing murder charge in US

From James Bone in Boston and Adrian Lee

A BRITISH nanny is facing a murder or manslaughter charge in the United States today after a nine-month-old baby in her care died from a brain haemorrhage.

Prosecutors in Middlesex County, near Boston, Massachusetts, said they planned to seek a murder indictment against Louise Woodward, 18, of Elton, Cheshire. She is accused of shaking Matthew Eappen to death. He died yesterday in Boston Children's Hospital after spending the weekend on a life-support machine.

Jill Rielly, a spokeswoman for the Middlesex County District Attorney's office, confirmed yesterday that prosecutors did intend to bring further charges against Miss Woodward. But she said the timing was unclear and that a new indictment might not be issued for "a couple of weeks".

Under Massachusetts law, Miss Woodward can be charged simply with murder, in which case it is up to the jury to decide the severity of the case. Murder in the first degree carries a life sentence; murder in the second degree also carries life but allows the possibility of parole after 15 years; manslaughter, which is also considered a murder or homicide charge, carries a sentence of up to 20 years.

Ms Rielly said that prosecutors were debating whether to charge Miss Woodward with a specific level of homicide or simply a blanket murder indictment.

Prosecutors said that Miss Woodward, who called an ambulance to the Eappens' home in a Boston suburb last Tuesday, has admitted shaking Matthew and throwing him on a pile of towels in the bathroom. She has already pleaded not guilty to a charge of battery of a child.

Miss Woodward, unable to meet bail of £62,500, is being held at a women's prison in Framingham. She is expected to appear in court today.

Her mother Susan said: "All the news had been positive and because we hadn't heard anything about Matthew's condition, we assumed he was getting better. That is all we were praying for. When I heard he had died I was devastated."

Mrs Woodward spoke to her daughter on Sunday, before the baby died. She described Louise as "a normal 18-year-old — fun-loving, outgoing, lively, enjoys going out — very much a family girl who loves her family".

Her father Gary, a builder, said: "She is a normal girl. She is strong — I wouldn't say she is too strong, though. We are expecting her to deal with something that in anyone's lifetime they wouldn't ever expect to have to deal with. I just hope she will be strong, keep believing in herself and keep herself together."

Miss Woodward's previous employer, Harris Komishane, of Manchester-by-the-Sea, said she started working for his family in July, but left in November because she did not want to abide by an 11pm curfew. Mr Komishane said he and his wife Lauren had been shocked to learn that the au pair was charged with assault. They had no reason to suspect that their child had been harmed but would have him examined.

Miss Woodward had also looked after the Eappens' elder child, Brendan.

Susan Woodward: was devastated at news

Police take-away surprises diners

By A Staff Reporter

DINERS looked on as armed police arrested an alleged blackmail gang yesterday in a McDonald's restaurant in Oxford Street, London.

Undercover officers mingled with customers as they watched the two men and a 19-year-old woman, who are believed to have been blackmailing a wealthy West End businessman.

Police watched as a go-between from the businessman handed over a briefcase containing what the gang thought was £50,000 in cash. It is believed that the gang had threatened to inform the wife of the businessman, who is believed to be in his 40s, about an alleged sexual affair.

Acting on a signal, the officers, dressed in civilian clothes, drew their guns, pulled on police caps for identification and surrounded the gang as they sat drinking coffee. Customers and passersby dived for cover as police in the restaurant shouted at the gang to put up their hands.

Other officers in Oxford Street poured into the restaurant in an operation that involved 50 police.

The suspects were made to lie on the floor and searched by the officers from Scotland Yard's SO19 firearms unit. Yesterday's raid was the culmination of a two-week surveillance operation that began when the businessman — who does not wish to be identified — contacted police after receiving blackmail demands.

Scotland Yard said last night that a 19-year-old woman was among those arrested. She was still being questioned last night.

Two men were also held. One is said to be a Spanish national aged 21, who lives in Ilford; the other is believed to be in his early 20s.

A police spokesman said last night: "This was a highly secretive and sensitive operation which passed off peacefully. The suspects were not armed."

A spokesman for McDonald's said: "We had no idea there was a police operation under way until officers came into the restaurant. It happened at lunchtime when the Marble Arch restaurant is very busy.

"There was no real disturbance to other customers and the police were very professional throughout."

Police removed the store's security video tape for examination, he added.

US actors' union bans British Ibsen

From Quentin Letts in New York

THERE are fears of a tit-for-tat dispute between New York's Broadway and London's West End after the American actors' union refused to grant work permits to three prominent British actors.

The denial of temporary US permits to Owen Teale, John Carlisle and Peter Gowen jeopardised the Broadway transfer of their production of Ibsen's *A Doll's House*. Actors' Equity, the trade union for American performers, decided that their parts could equally well be filled by domestic players.

The veteran producer Bill Kenwright, who had planned a 16-week run of the successful production at Broadway's Belasco Theatre, was furious. He is to appeal.

Broadway and the West End operate a mutually-beneficial system under which a limited number of work permits is available for foreign "stars", but the three performers failed to qualify.

To do so, an actor needs to have an international reputation and may be required to provide documentary proof of high earnings or prove they can offer "unique services". The New York-based League of American Theatre and Producers expressed concern that an international feud, or "star war" could follow from the Ibsen decision.

"We are quite surprised about this decision by American Equity," said the organisation's labour relations director Harriet Slaughter. "We don't know the reason and we encourage openness and exchange."

Another Broadway insider blamed "the appalling politics in Equity — someone obviously thought these parts should go to Americans, but it is ridiculous to think you can preserve the character of a production while getting rid of three major actors". American Equity is a notoriously unpredictable outfit and there have been reports of a certain unease at a recent rise in British acting success in New York.

Thelma Holt, who ran the London show, would not consider leaving for Broadway without her three actors. "I do not believe it is possible to re-create the calibre of the West End production without these key performers who have been together for six months," she said.

Cheltenham governors driven by market forces, says sacked head

By David Charter

THE former headmaster of Cheltenham College, sacked after the school slipped in the A-level tables, yesterday accused the governors of being more interested in the bank balance than their pupils. Peter Wilkes said the governing council ran an imaginary school based only on its surplus and examination statistics.

He was speaking publicly for the first time since he became the most prominent victim of what independent school heads refer to as "football manager syndrome". He said the council did not realise parents and students wanted more from the £12,000-a-year school than A-level grades.

He was backed yesterday by the parents' committee, which fought in vain for his reinstatement. Mark Hicks-Beach, a member of the committee, said: "The main thrust seems to be that the council and Peter Wilkes had different ideas for Cheltenham College, which is certainly what the parents feel. I do not think parents cared too much for league tables in the sense that the pupils were happy and were doing well enough for the parents to be satisfied."

The council has maintained that league tables were not the major factor in Mr Wilkes's dismissal and that he did not share their views on the direction of the school.

Mr Wilkes, who initially refused to resign, agreed after five months to leave this summer. He announced yesterday that he would become head of Arden Lawn School at Henley-in-Arden, Warwickshire. Speaking at Arden Lawn, a newly created senior school at Emscote Lawn, a preparatory school, he said schools were being driven too much by market forces. "I believe league tables are a very useful tool for schools and are very good at concentrating the mind on academic performance," he said. "But we must look at the wider picture when we are talking about education and I do not feel the governors of Cheltenham were altogether focused on that."

He said he was united with the parents against the governors in wanting to maximise every child's potential. "The governors, however, I feel, were concerned with maximising rolls and the school surplus. Perhaps they thought I was not the man to achieve that aim but ironically I wanted to achieve increased rolls but my approach was different."

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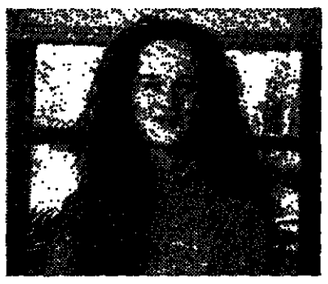

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The cameras, fans and a vanload of flowers were there – all that was missing were Liam and Patsy

Press jilted at showbiz wedding that never was

By Joe Joseph and Damian Whitworth

THE world might have been sighing in sympathy yesterday on hearing that Liam Gallagher of Oasis and the actress Patsy Kensit had been forced to postpone their secret wedding ceremony, if only the world hadn't been so busy guffawing at the official reason given for them scrubbing the event.

As scores of photographers drank their tenth takeaway coffee outside the wedding venue in Knightsbridge, a spokesman for the couple blamed the cancellation on "obsessive and intrusive media attention".

This from Liam Gallagher, the man who is either too naive to grasp that behaving like an orang-utan in public is a surefire way of getting yourself into the papers, or who otherwise must be assiduously courting the acres of press coverage he gets.

And this also from the already twice-married Patsy, who appears to move like a heat-seeking missile to whoever is the hottest rock star of the day.

Liam Gallagher and Patsy Kensit, who said they wanted their wedding to be private and special

Hands up who knows what Gallagher and Kensit were doing last Tuesday? Or the Friday before that? Most of us don't know. Fewer care. If they wanted to wed in secret, and in private, nobody would have stopped them. With details of yesterday's bash at Searcy's, behind Harrods, leaked in detail to the tabloids, their wedding was an even worse kept secret than Joan Collins's real age.

And does anyone who truly craves a quiet wedding investigate the possibility — as Liam and Patsy apparently did — of getting spliced at Wembley Stadium?

Then the couple compounded the public sniggering by adding in their statement that "obsessive and intrusive media attention" had "removed any dignity from what was to be a private and special occasion".

Reporters and photographers — and the television breakfast show broadcast from the pavement — trying to stay dry outside the couple's London home in St John's Wood got an inkling that the marriage might be on ice after Gallagher barked down his intercom: "I'm not getting married today, I'm in bed."

Outside Searcy's, the hired marriage venue at 30 Pavilion Road, Knightsbridge, policemen who had earlier set up barricades to pen in the camera crews began removing them shortly before noon. They left, announcing that they had been told that the wedding was off. At 2.15pm, Lavender Green, a florist's in Windsor, Berkshire, returned to the venue — apparently just eight hours after having delivered £1,260 worth of "white lilies, bare grass, and palms"— to remove their wares. Halfway through loading their van, the task seemed to die on them and the two Lavender Green women began distributing the lilies to the five or six teenage girls who had bothered to turn up to see the absent couple. Maybe Liam and Patsy called the whole thing off after realising that while photographers were out in force, fewer than a dozen fans had bothered to make the pilgrimage to either their house or the wedding venue: it certainly wasn't a Lennon-Yoko or Jagger-Hall-sized gathering.

"I'm disappointed I didn't get to see Liam," sighed Jodie Reddick, 17, from Hammersmith, west London, after being handed a bunch of now surplus lilies. "But I don't think Patsy's the right one for him. She's a bit vacant."

After another half-hour had passed, a Searcy's van came to load up the champagne, lager, Guinness and Jack Daniels that were to have lubricated the reception. The fag-end gaggle of photographers unscrewed their lenses and headed home from the wedding that never was.

Shameless cynics are even suggesting that the whole hullabaloo might have been a publicity stunt to divert attention away from rival band Blur's new album, *Blur*, which was released yesterday.

According to Westminster register office, the couple took out six special licences on Friday, nominating a different venue for the marriage on each. The licences are valid for three months, which means the couple could milk all the publicity until early May. Watch out for an election day wedding on May 1.

DAVID CHESKIN

Oasis fans with lilies they were presented with after florists came to empty the unneeded reception venue

Sams intended to kill hostage in cell, court told

By Joanna Bale

CONVICTED prisoner Michael Sams threatened a probation officer with a sharpened rod and put tape around her neck in an attempt to kill her, a court was told yesterday.

Sams, 54, imprisoned Julia Flack, the wife of the Archdeacon of Pontefract, the Ven John Flack, in a cell at Wakefield prison, intending to hold her hostage to draw attention to his grievances as an inmate. But as he held her underneath him on the floor, ignoring her screams for help, his thoughts turned to murder, Peter Collier, QC, for the prosecution, said.

Mrs Flack was forced to face her alleged attacker at Durham Crown Court yesterday as he cross-examined her for ten minutes after sacking his barrister.

Mr Collier said Sams, who denies attempted murder and false imprisonment, had taken a sharpened rod from a prison workshop and a length of tape and asked when a female probation officer would next attend. He waited quietly in line and was the sixth or seventh inmate seen by Mrs Flack, 50, a probation officer for 27 years.

"Sams then produced the weapon and warned her if she touched the alarm button she would be dead," Mr Collier said. Sams expected that, "as a mere woman, would melt with fear," Mr Collier said. "He didn't reckon with Mrs Flack. He didn't know her. What she did was to feel for the panic button.

'He saw her reach out and he said 'Right, you're dead'." Hearing screams, prison officers and inmates forced their way into the cell.

They found Mrs Flack on the floor with Sams on top of her. An examination later revealed marks around her neck consistent with it having compressed for between 15 to 20 seconds, Mr Collier said.

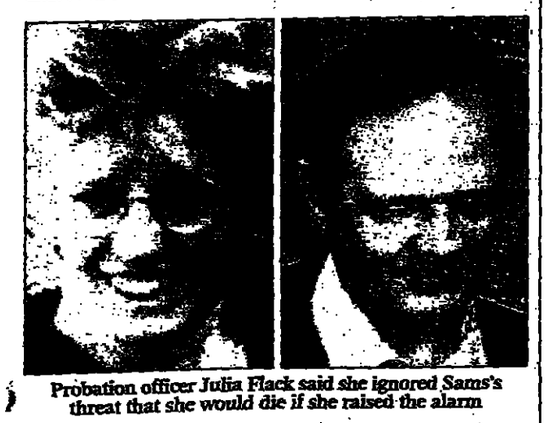
He added: "When she went for the panic button his plan quickly changed. At that point his intention was not less than to kill."

Mrs Flack told the court: "I saw that he had in his hand a long metal object and a piece of sewing tape and I noticed that the metal object was sharpened to a point.

"It was a split-second realisation of the extreme danger I was in. I felt very fearful, and so I did press the alarm. Mr Sams got hold of me and physically overcame me with his arm and started to wield the metal object," she said.

During his cross-examination, Sams, making fun of his false leg, claimed his arms could not possibly have been in the position Mrs Flack said. He added: "They couldn't have been there, they are permanently attached to my body, unfortunately, and can't be removed, unlike my leg."

The trial continues.



Probation officer Julia Flack said she ignored Sams's threat that she would die if she raised the alarm

CORRECTIONS

☐ The Society of Saint Pius X asks us to make clear that its founder, the late Archbishop Lefebvre, did not ordain or consecrate Bishop Michael Cox (report, November 15).

☐ His Honour David Moylan was the resident (senior) judge at Norwich, not for 20 years the sole judge as stated in an obituary on January 30.

☐ The Parks Nursery School (report, February 5) is in Oakham, Leicestershire, not Margate.

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Woman hurt in fatal car crash 'stable'

A PASSENGER seriously injured when a stolen car driven by a 13-year-old boy was involved in a fatal crash was "poorly but stable" in hospital yesterday.

Nicola Moreton, 19, of Walsall, West Midlands, suffered broken legs and neck and spinal injuries when the Austin Metro hit a wall in Walsall on Sunday morning, killing another passenger, Kim Birch, 17, of Bloxwich.

The driver, who lives locally, and two 14-year-old girls who had been back-seat passengers, were able to walk from the wreckage.

In another incident on Sunday, a car driven by a 17-year-old youth left the road in Penkridge, Staffordshire, seriously injuring a pedestrian, Stephen Haviland, of Penkridge, who sustained head, leg and chest injuries.

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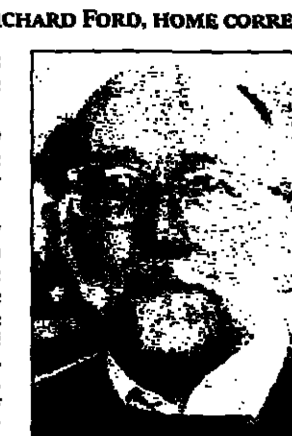
Doctors to monitor mental health of dangerous inmates

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

THE thirty most dangerous offenders held in "prisons within prisons" in England and Wales are to undergo medical checks every three months amid fears for their mental health.

Doctors will examine the inmates from next month to check on their psychiatric condition, the Prison Service announced yesterday. The checks are to be introduced after a series of recommendations from Sir Donald Acheson, the former Chief Medical Officer, who carried out an inquiry for the Prison Service into the regime at the three special secure units.



Acheson: gave warning of adverse effects

The demand that the men have frequent medical examinations comes after concern about the claustrophic conditions in the three special secure units (SSUs) at Full Sutton jail, York, Belmarsh prison, southeast London, and Whitemoor jail in March, Cambridgeshire.

Sir Donald carried out a review for the Prison Service and gave a warning of the dangers of many years spent in the units.

"There is very limited meaningful work and at least two of the units were somewhat cramped and claustrophobic and there was a lack of social contact and incentives. It seemed that it was likely that over the course of years, a proportion of them would develop significant adverse effects to mental health," Sir Donald said.

He said prisoners held in the units had the same rights with regard to healthcare as any other person. "It is not part of the punishment that they shall be treated in such a way that their health inevitably suffers," he said on BBC Radio Four's *World at One* programme. In his report, Sir Donald also recommended an end to closed visits, where inmates are separated from their visitors by glass, but the Government rejected the proposal.

A Prison Service spokesman said the first quarterly check-up would take place next month. The Prison Service was also considering whether the regime for inmates could be improved by providing more opportunities for mental stimulation, physical exercise and work.

The special secure units were designed to hold offenders who represented a very high risk. Offenders never leave the unit, except to be transferred to another jail, and exercise yards are covered to prevent escape by helicopter.

Last month, when the trial of six men accused of escaping from Whitemoor prison collapsed, the judge said there was evidence that suggested a mental deterioration in the condition of five men who had been held in the special secure unit at the prison. The regimes for inmates of Britain's three SSUs were made tougher after the Woodcock report into the Whitemoor escape criticised lax conditions there.

Tony Pearson, the Prison Service's director of security, defended regimes in the three units. "We have a very difficult balance to keep in the Prison Service between security and treatment of individuals. I wouldn't want to support any view that said we're not bothered about people's mental health."

If a prisoner's mental health broke down or seriously declined, the offender could be transferred to one of the three top-security hospitals.

Penal reform groups are concerned over the mental health of the 24 prisoners who have been told they will spend the rest of their lives in jail. The groups believe the prisoners' health could deteriorate because they have been deprived of hope of release.

Letters, page 17
Law, page 33

Floating jails needed in weeks, says Tilt

PRISONERS will have to be housed in police cells unless plans for a floating jail are approved, Richard Tilt, the Director-General of the Prison Service, said yesterday.

The service is facing an overcrowding crisis made worse by opposition from local communities to emergency plans to convert a disused airbase and a former holiday camp into a prison.

Mr Tilt told the service's annual conference in Manchester that the population of the 135 jails in England and Wales was likely to be about 60,000 by March, exceeding their total capacity.

A proposal to convert Middleton Towers, a former holiday camp near Heysham, Lancashire, has been delayed because the Prison Service has not reached agreement with the Health and Safety Executive over evacuation procedures in the event of an emergency at the nearby nuclear power station.

Without the 500 places that would be made available by mooring the prison ship *Resolution* in Portland Harbour, Dorset, the use of hugely expensive police cells looked unavoidable by the middle of next month, Mr Tilt said.

Police cells cost the service up to £300 a night in charges levied by police authorities: up to seven times the cost of keeping prisoners in jail.

Mrs Beeton, symbol of Victorian domesticity, whose letters, below, are to be sold

Letters reveal the simmering passions of Mrs Beeton

By Glen Owen

MRS BEETON, the celebrated Victorian cook and symbol of homely virtues, hid a more passionate side from her culinary followers, according to love letters released yesterday.

Isabella Beeton became a role model for generations of housewives with her *Book of Household Management*. Published in 1861, it sets out the essentials of cookery and housekeeping, to reflect her belief "that there is no more fruitful source of family discontent than a housewife's badly cooked dinners and untidy ways".

She has since become the symbol for a lost age of contented domesticity, sentimentally assumed to be plump, grey-haired and matronly. But the reality is of a young woman, the eldest of 21 children, who was married at 20, had written her "bible" by the age of 26 and was dead at 29.

Now Mrs Beeton's love life is under the spotlight. In April, Sotheby's will auction love letters exchanged with her fiancé, Samuel Beeton, an author and publisher, in the months before they married in 1856.

The letters mix the romantic with the practical. In a note penned in June 1856, Isabella discusses the plans for furnishing the marital home before expressing her eagerness to see her husband-to-be: "You cannot imagine how I have missed you, and have been wishing all day that I were a bird that I might fly away and be at rest with you, my own precious one."

On another occasion she enthused about the marriage, pleading that "in a very short time you have the entire management of me and I can assure you you will find in me a most docile and willing pupil". Her fondness would mix with formality, writing that: "It seems such an age since I have spoken with you and I can assure you I quite long for a quiet little chat with my old man, my darling, darling venerable."

Her sterner side emerges when her future husband says he plans to visit Germany shortly after the wedding. "It would be wrong and very unkind of you to go away so soon after ... After a man marries he is supposed to look first to his better or worse half as the case may be."

Samuel Beeton's responses were deeply affectionate. "I wish at this moment I could breathe into your ears, closely and caressingly," he writes, expressing his trust "that bright sunny days are in store for you with your devoted Swain".

After her marriage, the new Mrs Beeton began contributing articles to the hugely successful *Englishwoman's Domestic Magazine*, which had been launched by her husband.

In 1859 she started writing her guide to household management as a supplement. It sprung from the marriage preparations. She told her many sisters that she felt unprepared: "Why has no one written a book — a good book for brides? A book to help them manage a household and learn all the things they simply must know if they are to succeed in married life." The 24 parts of *Beeton's Book of Household Management* were eventually published in one volume. Today it still sells more than 50,000 copies a year.

The couple's contented life in Pinner, Middlesex, lasted nine years, until Mrs Beeton's death in 1865 from a fever after the birth of their fourth child. In a letter written to a friend shortly afterwards, Mr Beeton refers to "the dreadful grief that well nigh overpowers me, and renders me unable to move or stir".

There are nine love letters in the sale and two of Mr Beeton's letters to friends. They are expected to fetch up to £6,000.

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Seatbelts ruling is criticised

By Jonathan Prynn

MINIBUSES and coaches that carry schoolchildren must be fitted with seatbelts under legislation that came into force yesterday, but pupils will not be forced to wear them. The rules, announced by the Government in 1995 after a spate of minibus and coach accidents, apply to any vehicle carrying three or more children aged between three and sixteen, except buses.

John Howard, of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, said that unless wearing belts was a legal requirement, children would ignore them because of peer pressure not to appear "wimps". Mr Howard also claimed local authorities could reclassify coaches as buses by having speed limiters fitted.

John Bowis, the Road Safety Minister, said local authorities had received extra money to fit the belts, so cutting corners would be "wholly unjustified". Pressure to wear them should come from parents and teachers, and children's own safety awareness.

NHS in talks with private sector to protect pay beds

By Jeremy Laurance, Health Correspondent

LEADERS of 400 NHS trusts are seeking a link-up with a private health insurer to defend NHS pay beds against aggressive competition.

The move by the NHS Trust Federation is designed to protect the NHS's share of the lucrative private healthcare market, which is coming under attack from private hospitals and threatens to remove millions of pounds of NHS income.

The deal under negotiation is believed to involve a single private health insurance company, thought to be Norwich Union Healthcare, marketing NHS pay beds nationally. The federation has about 300 trusts with pay beds. The move could give the insurer access to patient records which could be used for mailshots to local patients offering special deals.

Occupancy of private hospitals is as low as 50 per cent and some face closure. The NHS has been beating the private sector at its own game, increasing its market share since 1988 from 11 per cent to 16.5 per cent, and is the largest provider of private beds.

Labour said that such a deal would introduce a two-tier service. Tessa Jowell, Shadow Health Minister, said that if it went ahead it would represent an "enormous stride down the path of privatisation".

Marco Cereste, chairman of the federation, said NHS managers were alarmed at moves by the big private health insurers to establish "preferred provider" networks of hospitals to which their patients would be sent. BUPA has announced it was excluding NHS hospitals from its preferred list and PPP and Norwich Union have issued their own lists.

Mr Cereste, writing in *Parliamentary Review*, says the NHS could lose 70 per cent of its pay-bed income of £220 million a year as a result of the moves, and must react quickly to defend it. "A partnership with a private health insurer is something which could benefit all concerned. This would not mean a private NHS. Trusts would simply be working with an insurance company prepared to promote NHS services to its customers."

Yesterday, Mr Cereste said that the arrangement would not preclude other insurers using NHS pay beds. The Government said last year the NHS should not align itself with a single insurer. The federation is seeking a way round this restriction.

Labour said that a national scheme to promote NHS pay beds would create a parallel insurance-based service leaving the NHS as a safety net which would undermine its founding principle as a universal service available on the basis of need.

Tim Baker, chief executive of Norwich Union Healthcare, confirmed that negotiatons were underway with the federation. He said: "NHS pay bed units are cheaper, more cost-effective and run at higher occupancy levels and they have a lot of back-up facilities on site."

Whisky giants challenge Manx spirit

By Daniel McGrory

A JUDGE was yesterday invited to drink as much whisky as he wished while deciding whether a colourless spirit distilled on the Isle of Man could be sold as "whisky".

Two of the world's biggest drinks firms are taking legal action against a village distillery, run by one employee and a handful of volunteers, which produces "Manx whiskey", mainly for export.

The Glen Kella Distillery argues that nobody could mistake its product for the traditional tipple, no matter how much they might consume, because it is sold in clear bottles.

The rival parties lined up their brands at the High Court yesterday. Simon Thorley, QC, representing United Distillers, Allied Domecq and the Scotch Whisky Association, told the judge: "We have no objection to your lordship drinking as much whisky as you wish."

He quickly added that he trusted that Mr Justice Rattee would "decide on the evidence rather than your own personal enjoyment".

The judge smiled and glanced at the bottles displayed before him, replying: "I suppose you will check the levels each morning."

The rivals then began considering the exceedingly dry detail of the science of distillation, swapping charts of alcoholic strengths and debating lengthy legal precedents. Only the courtroom water bottles were emptied.

Mr Thorley said: "The fundamental question is what is whisky?" All traditionalists would appreciate, he said, that whisky had to be made by maturing a spirit distilled from fermented cereal and allowing it to mature for at least three years in oak casks, a process which gave it its colour and flavour.

Glen Kella: distilled again to remove colour

Glen Kella, based in the village of Sulby, imports Scotch whisky and puts it through an extra distillation process to remove the brown colour. This process, Mr Thorley said, disqualified it from being called "whisky".

Scotch whisky accounts for 96 per cent of all whisky sold. Only 30,000 bottles of the colourless spirit called Manx whiskey — spelt with the Irish "e" — are produced each year.

The plaintiffs make some of Britain's best-known brands, including Johnnie Walker, Bells and Teachers. The Scotch Whisky Association is funded by the industry.

Glen Kella, whose unpaid managing director, Andrew Dixon, is also a sheep farmer and a microbiologist, will argue that its product complies with Isle of Man regulations covering whisky and cannot be mistaken for Scotch. The case is expected to last ten days.

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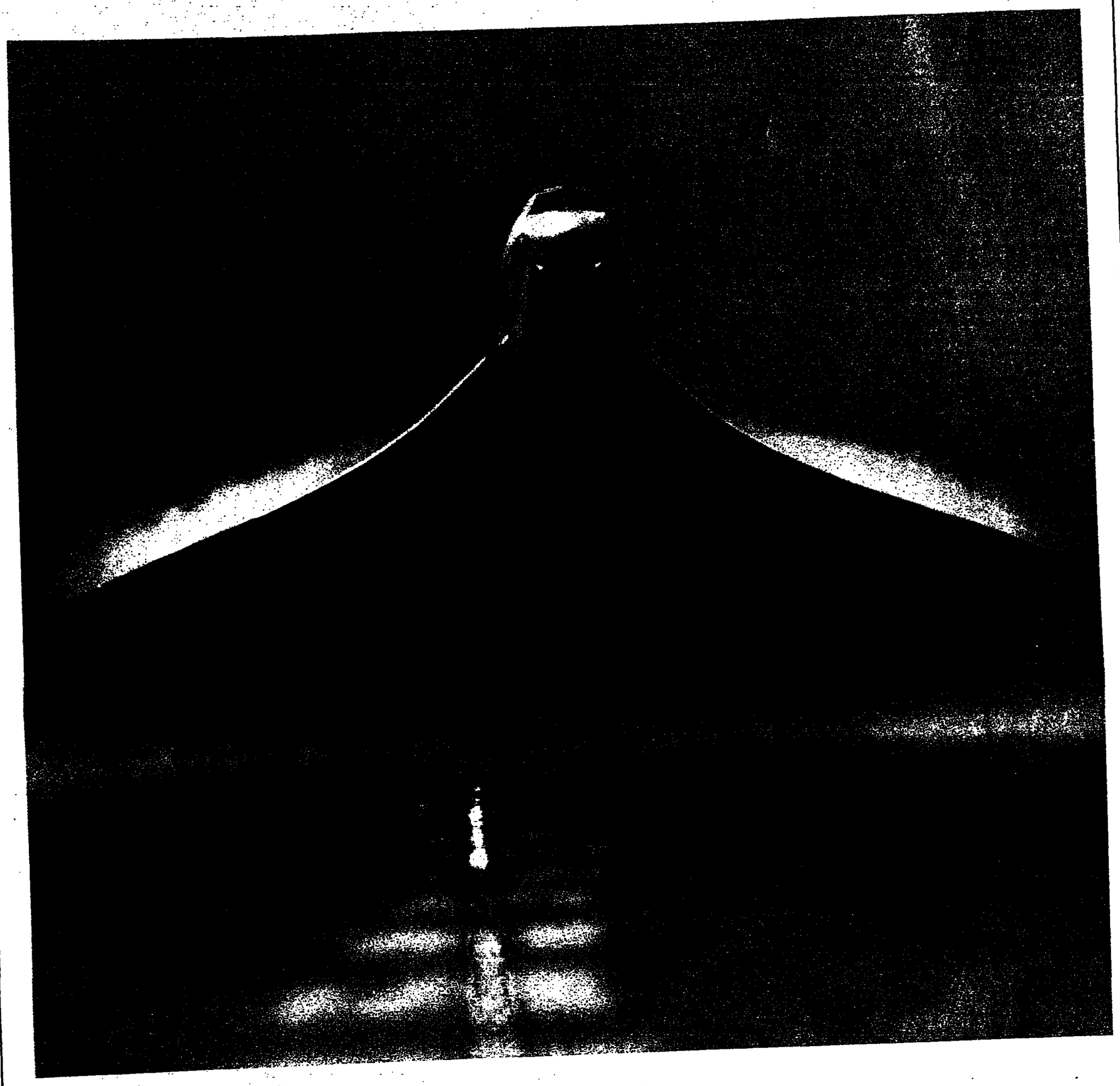

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Murdered boy's mother attacks 'racist' justice system

Mrs Lawrence: said police delays lost vital evidence

By Michael Horsnell

THE mother of Stephen Lawrence, the black teenager stabbed to death by a white gang in 1993, yesterday accused police of treating the family like criminals because of their colour.

Doreen Lawrence told the resumed inquest at Southwark that when her son died the police spent two weeks investigating the background of her family, during which time vital evidence was lost.

Mrs Lawrence eventually mounted a private prosecution with her husband against three unemployed white men, which collapsed last year when Mr Justice Curtis ruled that identification evidence from Dwayne Brooks, who was with Stephen when he died, was unsafe.

Breaking down at the inquest, Mrs Lawrence said: "My son was murdered nearly four years ago. His killers are still walking the street. When my son was murdered, the police saw him as a criminal belonging to a gang.

"My son was stereotyped by the police: he was black, then he must be a criminal, and they set about to investigate him and us.

"My son's crime was that he was walking down the road looking out for a bus that would take him home. Our crime is living in a country where the justice system supports racist murders against innocent people."

Stephen Lawrence, 18, who was taking A levels and hoping to become an architect, was stabbed at a bus stop in Eltham, southeast London, in an unprovoked attack, the jury was told. Mr Brooks, 22, said five or six members of the gang had shouted at them from across the road "what ... what, nigger?" before running over to Stephen.

Sir Montague Levine, the coroner, told the inquest, at which the men acquitted of murder will be called to give evidence, that it was not a trial or an exercise in apportioning blame. Police were on standby outside the court but the hearing started without incident.

Mrs Lawrence, a diminutive figure wearing a red carnation, said that shortly after the murder she took to the local police station a list of the names of her son's alleged killers provided by friends and sympathisers. She said: "I presented it to one of the officers and while we were talking I watched, He folded the paper and rolled it into a ball in his hand. I asked: 'Are you going to throw it in the bin?' He said: 'No, no'."

She added: "The value that this white racist country puts on black lives is evident to see since the killing of my son. In my opinion what happened in court last year was staged, meaning it was decided before we entered the courtroom what would happen, that the judge would not allow the evidence to be presented to the jury."

She said it was clear to the black community that their lives were worth nothing and that the system would support only a white person who wished to commit crime.

"I hope our family will be the last, even though there are no signs to date, to be put through this nightmare, which it has been for us."

Mr Brooks described how the gang ran across the road at them. He said: "I turned round and saw Stephen standing there. These boys ran right into him. The first person I had seen stabbed Stephen. I didn't know he had stabbed him at the time. I just thought he had hit him.

"Stephen dropped to the floor. One of the other boys started running at me but gave up. By this time the other boys were running away. Stephen started to get up. A boy ran back and whacked him on the back of his head. Stephen just jumped up, we both crossed the road and started running off.

"Stephen said 'What's wrong with me?'. I was slowing down with him. Then I turned round and there was all blood on him. His voice sounded funny so I stopped. He said he couldn't run any more. Then he fell to the floor. He was still breathing but he couldn't speak."

Mr Brooks attended three identity parades at which he picked out a number of suspects.

The cause of death has already been given as haemorrhage due to a stab wound to the chest. The inquest continues.

Government injects £43m to restart Manchester's heart

From Marcus Binney and Russell Jenkins

PLANS to rebuild Manchester city centre as a traffic-free area of pavement cafés, winter gardens and riverside walks were given a £43 million boost by the Government yesterday.

The grant, announced by Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, on a video link-up with planners in Manchester, comes on top of £20 million from the EU and brings to £63 million the public sector funding secured by Manchester Millennium Ltd, the taskforce set up to oversee the rebuilding work in the wake of the IRA bomb that devastated the city last June.

Mr Heseltine made the announcement as EDAW, the consultants who won the design competition, and their consortium partners unveiled a scale model they have refined after extensive public consultation. It features the Millennium Centre and "millennium quarter" around the cathedral, as planned, but the park areas have been expanded and priority placed on pedestrian areas and housing.

Much of central Manchester is hushed, even dead in the evenings, and the designers hope that brightly lit restaurants and cafés, coupled with late-opening shops, will bring the same kind of crowds that throng Leicester Square in London and pedestrianised city centres on the Continent.

Marks & Spencer announced yesterday that building work on what will be its largest store will begin this summer. Demolition of the old building is underway.

Much of the faceless exterior of the Arndale Centre will disappear behind an eight-metre-deep skin of outward-facing new shops. The cathedral will stand in a green close running down towards the River Irwell where a bridge, serving nothing more than a car park, will be removed to open up the view. River boats will ply back and forth to the £80 million Lowry Centre on Salford Quays.

Shambles Square will be rebuilt and its cluster of old buildings, including the Wellington pub, already jacked up 1.4 metres when the Arndale Centre was built, will be moved to a more fitting setting beside the Corn Exchange. The new Shambles Square will bring residents back to the city centre with a smart block of 60 apartments. They will be followed by others on the Salford side of the river. Other key elements still to be confirmed are a major new Harvey Nichols store and a Trocadero-style development with 24 cinemas.

The rebuilt city centre will be a light, bright place where glass walls rise to the full height of buildings, notably in the new M&S of the Building Design Partnership. Ian Simpson, the principle Manchester architect on the winning team, said: "The new centre will be very modern, but we will pick up on the sandstone used on surrounding buildings."

Mr Heseltine, who has maintained a close watch on progress since the IRA attack, compared the prospect facing the planners, architects and builders as the most extraordinary opportunity to shape Manchester since the 19th century.

John Prescott, the Labour deputy leader who was in Manchester addressing a conference, said that the party was right behind the plan. Richard Leese, Manchester City Council's leader, said: "We made a promise that we would not simply rebuild the city centre as it was, we would take the opportunity to rebuild a city centre for the 21st century. From the progress we have made so far, you can see we are delivering on that promise."

PHIL NOBLE

Richard Leese, council leader, and the model of Manchester city centre

Trees cut down to save red squirrel

By Nick Nuttall

THOUSANDS of acres of spruce trees are to be cleared from a forest in northeast England in an attempt to preserve the red squirrel.

The move follows evidence that the number of red squirrels in commercially managed forests where sitka spruce dominates is far lower than in those with native species.

The researchers, whose findings will be disclosed later this week at a meeting at the London Zoological Society, are linking the difference to the way that conifer trees produce and release their seeds.

Trees such as the Scots pine produce big seeds that are shed from cones throughout the year, providing a plentiful food supply for squirrels. But sitka spruce, which since the 1940s has increasingly been used as a timber crop because it grows quickly and is less prone to attack by animals, produces small seeds that are shed only in the autumn.

The findings have prompted the Forestry Commission to restructure 5,000 hectares (12,355 acres) of forest at Spadeadam, Cumbria, replacing sitka with species such as Scots pine and Norway spruce.

The commission said that if the pilot project confirmed the scientists' findings, it would consider similar felling and replanting schemes at other conifer forests.

Andrews: accused

Clues to roadside murder

A lawyer defending a woman charged with murdering her fiancé — whom she said was killed by "road rage" attackers — said that 15 leads had emerged since he appealed for information. Tim Robinson told BBC Radio 5 Live's *Crimedesk* that he had video film of a car that could be the one Tracie Andrews, 27, of Alvechurch, Hereford and Worcester, says was involved in the attack on December 1 in which Lee Harvey, 25, died.

Footballer jailed

A Premiership footballer was jailed for six months after admitting affray at a nightclub. Derby Crown Court was told a woman needed six stitches after Neil Lewis, 22, of Leicester City attacked a man with a beer bottle in a row over his girlfriend at Zoots club in Leicester in August 1995.

Doctor's apology

A radiologist has apologised after losing his temper with a patient with a weak heart who pointed out that his examination had not been completed. Dr David Kessel called Alan Hunter, 53, a "bolshie idiot" and threw rolls of paper about at St James's University Hospital, Leeds.

Birds rescued

Nearly 150 oil-soaked seabirds have been recovered from beaches along the South Coast. The birds, mainly guillemots and razorbills, are thought to have been covered with fuel oil discharged by a ship under cover of fog. They have been taken to an RSPCA centre in Somerset for cleaning.

Path to nirvana

An order of Buddhist monks has persuaded West Sussex County Council to reroute a footpath away from their monastery, set in woodland near Midhurst. The monks, who spend long periods in silence, had been upset by noisy picnickers.

Fire chief goes

Suffolk's chief fire officer, cleared last week over allegations that he drank alcohol while on duty, has left the brigade. Tony Baker, 51, has been off sick since January and Suffolk County Council says his early retirement is due to unspecified ill health.

Choc-a-block

Ishimizu, a Japanese chocolate company, has bought a Victorian mansion for a museum in Hokkaido. Underlea House, built on Merseyside in the 1860s, was demolished 15 years ago. Blocks are being numbered for assembly in Japan next year.

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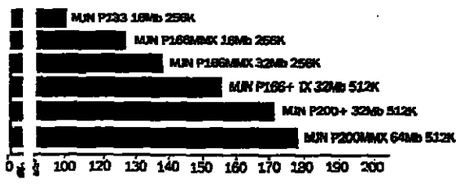

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Broadcaster back up to speed with pacemaker

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

NEITHER the recent outrage of feminists, nor the minor surgery needed to fit a pacemaker last week, have prevented Alastair Cooke from making his weekly broadcast.

Mr Cooke's views are usually so universally popular that it may have been the strain of having to face unaccustomed savage — and many would think unjust — criticism which could have precipitated changes in his heart which led to his cardiac arrhythmia.

Mr Cooke explained that the electrical communication between the collecting chambers of his heart, the atria and the pumping chambers, the ventricles, had broken down, and that his pacemaker, which had taken only 20 minutes to fit, had restored his pulse rate to normal.

Mr Cooke's comments on his symptoms and treatment sound as if he was describing a third-degree heart block. The condition, which is a failure of electrical connection between the atria and ventricles, produces a very slow heartbeat.

If the beat is over 40, the symptoms may not be too trying. But if it falls below, patients complain of dizziness and they may faint, particularly if their blood pressure is suddenly reduced by standing up too rapidly. Patients also notice severe breathlessness when exercising and feel so tired that it is difficult to do a day's work. There is always the risk of acute, and sometimes fatal, heart failure.

Heart block may follow a coronary thrombosis, or sometimes it can occur if there is a gradual deterioration of the blood supply through the coronary circulation.

Dr Anthony Rickards, consultant cardiologist at the Royal Brompton Hospital, said: "Although coronary occlusion is the cause of about 10 per cent of cases, 90 per cent are the result of the simple ageing of the conduction system and no other heart disease is found to account for it."

Pacemakers have improved enormously in recent years. In the past, they were considered efficient so long as they preserved life. Simple ones which do this are still fitted if the heart block is transient and infrequent but the beat they transmit makes no allowance for exercise.

Most patients, however, need a pacemaker that will increase the heart rate during exercise. Mr Cooke frequently tells us of the pleasure which, as an octogenarian, he experiences when playing with his grandchildren or pursuing his busy life. The old-fashioned pacemaker would have curtailed his activities.

Patients whose hearts are in danger of developing ventricular fibrillation, a fatal arrhythmia which is not be to confused with the relatively common atrial fibrillation, can be fitted with a special pacemaker, an implantable defibrillator. This pacemaker will deliver the necessary shocks to restore a viable rhythm to the heart as soon as the beat becomes so disorganised as to be lethal.

About ten patients worldwide have been fitted with a modified implanted defibrillator which will restore the correct rhythm whenever they suffer from the common condition of atrial fibrillation.

The device delivers a standard of first aid which is normally reserved for health-conscious presidents, who are accompanied wherever they go by doctors with a defibrillator in their black bag.

Cooke: underwent a 20-minute operation

Gulf War records sought

MILITARY units that served in the Gulf War have been ordered to try to locate informal records of controversial vaccinations administered to troops during the conflict.

The Ministry of Defence has admitted that many units failed to put the information on proper medical records. The details are vital for the government-funded investigation into so-called Gulf War syndrome but information gathered so far is patchy and limited. Units that do not respond to the orders will be identified.

Troops were vaccinated against anthrax, plague, whooping cough, cholera, tetanus, typhoid, polio and yellow fever. Some also received Hepatitis B and took tablets to protect against chemical weapons.

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Keeper in match-fix trial told the police 'rubbish'

By A Staff Reporter

A FORMER Wimbledon goalkeeper accused of being part of a match-fixing plot admitted yesterday that when he was arrested, he told police "absolute rubbish". Hans Segers said he was afraid the Football Association would find out that he had been forecasting the results of matches for people betting on them, which was against the rules.

Dutch-born Mr Segers, 35, was giving evidence at Winchester Crown Court, where he, the former Liverpool goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar, 29, the former Aston Villa and Wimbledon striker John Fashanu, 34, and a Malaysian businessman, Heng Suan Lim, 31, deny conspiring to give and accept corrupt payments.

Mr Segers said he denied to police that he knew Mr Lim, as he would have had to say that he was forecasting matches for him. He told his counsel, Desmond de Silva, QC, that he had first met Mr Lim in Mr Fashanu's office in 1993 and had agreed to do forecasts on Dutch matches. Mr Lim had offered him £1,000 a week but Mr Fashanu had negotiated it up to £1,500. He said he mainly forecast Dutch matches but if Mr Lim needed information on English teams he would help him.

Mr de Silva asked him: "Have you ever thrown a game of football in your life?" The goalkeeper replied: "Never." Asked if he had ever received money or indeed the offer of money for throwing a game, he said: "No, never."

Mr de Silva said Mr Segers had told police he had an account in Switzerland, but that the money that went into it came from years of stealing expensive cars: "It was absolute rubbish," Mr Segers, of Fleet, Hampshire, said.

He agreed that another lie he told police was that he hardly ever spoke to Mr Fashanu. Mr De Silva asked: "In your domestic life, to coin a phrase, did you always play at home?" Mr Segers replied: "I played a few away matches." When he wanted Mr Fashanu to cover for him, the arrangement would be made on the telephone. He said that he had done Mr Fashanu "quite a few" favours.

The case continues.

Segers: denied he had ever thrown a match

The Princess holds an Angolan child in the *Heart of the Matter* film she scripted; some of the sights in war-torn Angola were very traumatic for a mother, she says

How landmine critics brought Princess close to tears

By Emma Wilkins

DIANA, Princess of Wales, has repeated her call for a worldwide ban on landmines while admitting that criticism of her stance made her want to cry.

The Princess, who spoke out against the weapons during her recent visit to Angola, was attacked as a "loose cannon" by a junior Defence Minister because her support for a total ban appeared to contradict government policy.

During her visit last month, the Princess dismissed the criticism as "a distraction" but on a documentary to be shown on BBC1 tonight, the Princess reveals the extent of her distress. She appears bewildered when confronted by a reporter in Angola who asks for her reaction to the MP's attack: "Who says I am a loose cannon? I'm only trying to highlight a problem that's going on around the world. I am ready to burst into tears now," she says.

It is the first time that the Princess, who wore a microphone throughout her three-day visit, has made a documentary film. She wrote her own script and recorded a commentary last week at a BBC studio in London.

The Princess was moved to tears after visiting a seven-year-old girl in hospital whose intestines were blown out in a landmine explosion. "It has been very sad, what I saw. That was very traumatic as a mother to witness," she says. At other times in the 30-minute *Heart of the Matter* film, she is seen being briefed by Red Cross officials, detonating a mine and talking to aid workers. The Princess calls for a total ban on landmines.

Anne Reevell, editor of the programme, said she gave the Princess 11 out of 10 for professionalism.

Britons pin hopes on shuttle flight to space telescope

By Nigel Hawkes, Science Editor

THE space shuttle *Discovery* lifts off today with the hopes of British scientists riding on the success of a potentially calamitous mission to upgrade the Hubble space telescope.

The scientists, who are heavily involved in the next phase of observations from the telescope, will watch anxiously as the astronauts attempt to replace two instruments and service other equipment. After a bad start, the telescope has been working flawlessly since December 1993, when it was last visited by a shuttle crew.

That time, they could only make things better; this time they could make them much worse. The greatest danger is that they could nudge and break the slender links holding the solar arrays to the body of the telescope, leaving it without power.

The 1993 trip corrected the telescope's flawed mirror, since when it has been producing brilliant images and making important discoveries. "We could go up there and screw it up," Gregory Harbaugh, one of the four astronauts, said.

"We sure don't want to do that. Our going-in position is 'above all else, do no harm'."

The struts linking the solar panels to the telescope have become fragile and twisted. There is no plan to replace these panels before 1999, but the mission will involve moving a robot arm to within a few inches of them.

A single touch could be enough to break them off, so the astronauts will be carrying specially designed splints to fix them should this happen. If the solar panels themselves are damaged, there are no spares on board to replace them — and, without them, the telescope will be rendered useless.

The instruments which are being replaced are the size of a postbox. They will give way to new equipment which is designed to do a different job.

The Near Infra-red Camera and Multi-Object Spectrometer (NICMOS) is designed to provide sharply focussed views of the most distant, earliest regions of the universe, views of stars that may be circled by Earth-like planets, and pictures of the dust-obscured centre of the Milky Way.

The second new instrument is the Space Telescope Imaging Spectrograph (STIS), designed to extend the telescope's capabilities by advances in sensor and computer technology.

Many British astronomers hope to carry out experiments with the new instruments. Professor John Peacock of the Royal Observatory in Edinburgh will use NICMOS to look at two of the oldest known galaxies in the universe, aiming to prove that some galaxies formed very soon after the Big Bang.

Max Pettini of the Royal Greenwich Observatory and David Bowen of the Royal Observatory in Edinburgh will be using STIS to estimate the mass of the universe by measuring precisely how much deuterium — a form of hydrogen — it contains. Since deuterium was created only in the Big Bang, the amount is related to the total amount of mass in the universe.

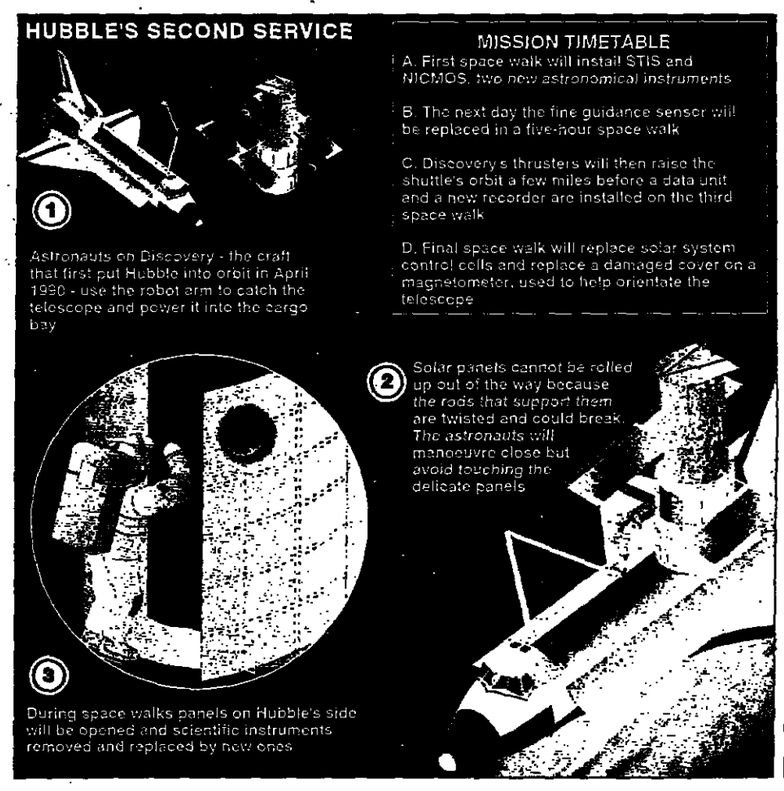
The astronauts will also replace an electronics package in the solar arrays, fit a new tape recorder and put new covers on the magnetometers on top of the telescope. Four spacewalks will be needed to complete the mission.

The astronauts, using low-power jets, will also try to lift the telescope five or six miles higher. Its orbit has dropped by about 20 miles since the last mission.

Another instrument due for replacement is one of the three fine guidance sensors which enable the telescope to point accurately. The new device is expected to allow the telescope to be trained on an object the width of a human hair three miles away.

The trickiest task will be replacing one of the data interface units which process the signals from the telescope. "There are just a zillion connectors in this box," Mr Harbaugh told *Sky and Telescope* magazine.

"The trick is not only to get them in, but to access the work site efficiently. It's hard to reach and some of the connectors have three or four wires coming out of the back, so it's a delicate task."



Missing anorexic girl is found safe

A teenage girl who went missing from the hospital where she was being treated for anorexia was reunited with her parents yesterday. Jackie Hooker, 16, had been recognised by two newsagents in Brixton, south London. She had booked into a hostel in the area and was taken in a police car to be reunited with her family. She had gone missing from Heatherwood Hospital, Ascot, Berkshire, on Saturday morning. Her treatment, which had been informal, will now be compulsory.

Just the ticket

The first Routemaster, prototype for the classic red London bus, returns to service today between Marylebone and Crystal Palace, south London, where it ran from 1956 to 1959, in a London Transport Museum scheme celebrating doubledeckers in the capital.

Protest vote

A man born without arms or legs after his mother took thalidomide is to be a candidate in the Wirral South by-election for the Thalidomide Action Group (UK) Party. Freddie Astbury, 37, aims to raise awareness of the hardship suffered by victims.

Pulp magazine

Jarvis Cocker, singer with the pop group Pulp, paid £2,760 for a complete bound set of 120 copies of the woman's magazine *Nova* at Bonham's in London. The design and content of the magazine, which folded in 1975, epitomised the mood of the Sixties.

Wife sentenced

A former prison nurse has been given a one-month suspended sentence by Peterborough Crown Court after helping a man convicted of manslaughter to abscond. Sylvana Nottingham, 36, of Peterborough, and Andrew Osborne have since married.

Toilet sit-in

Residents in Preston, East Yorkshire, are staging a sit-in to save public toilets threatened with demolition to make way for housing. Charles Little, speaking from a cubicle during his shift, said: "It's the only public toilets between here and the coast."

Widower's gift

William Bray, 84, a widower from Hayle, Cornwall, has given his £50,000 savings towards building a hospice. Mr Bray, who retired seven years ago, said: "I have never had an ache or pain in my life but I wanted my money to go to a charity in my local area."

Fishermen accuse Labour of breaking quota-hopping pledge

By Polly Newton
Political Reporter

FISHERMEN accused Labour of making worthless promises after the party signalled yesterday that it would not match Tory tactics to bring an end to quota-hopping.

Robin Cook, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, has told friends he would not block a new European treaty purely on the issue of quota-hopping, the practice whereby foreign-owned trawlers register as British in order to take a share of Britain's fish quota.

The move comes despite recent indications from the Labour front bench that the party planned to follow the Conservatives' tough line on quota-hopping by refusing to sign any treaty that did not ban the practice.

Fishermen's representatives are seeking an urgent meeting with Mr Cook and Tony Blair. Mike Townsend, chairman of the National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations, said yesterday: "We are very concerned. We want to seek a commitment from Labour that they are prepared to do whatever is necessary."

Government ministers have said that they would use the British veto at the conclusion of the inter-governmental conference, which is formulating the new treaty, if quota-hopping were not banned.

Mr Cook has made clear that he would not make such a commitment. A Labour source said that the party believed the Tories were "posturing" and would not be prepared to use the veto.

"I don't think we would go as far as to say we would veto the IGC on that sole issue .... It may be that there is a draft treaty that contains many things of advantage to Britain, and we are therefore reluctant to commit ourselves to vetoing such a treaty on one single issue," the source said.

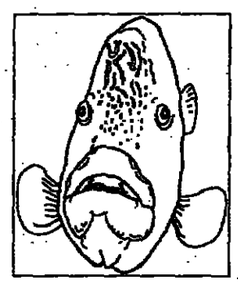
During the annual Commons debate on fisheries policy last December, Gavin Strang, Shadow Agriculture Minister, said Labour would give a high priority to quota-hopping and said there was "no question" that it could continue on the current scale.

He told MPs: "If the Labour Party comes to power, it will be before the completion of the IGC ... Clearly, an incoming Labour government could — I put it no stronger than that — pick up the hand."

Jim Portus, chief executive of the South West Fish Producers Organisation, said yesterday that he had been assured by Mr Strang that a Labour government would use the veto to end quota-hopping. "The promises that the fishing industry got from the Labour Party immediately prior to the fisheries debate are worth nothing," Mr Portus said.

About 160 fishing vessels are registered as British but are owned, crewed and operated elsewhere. They represent only 2 per cent of the British fleet, but catch about 20 per cent of the fish allocated to Britain under the quota system.

A curious fish called the bumphead wrasse, right, is being killed in increasing numbers for the Chinese food trade, and conservationists say this is damaging the last coral reefs (Nick Nuttall writes). Researchers launching the International Year of the Reef in London said yesterday that the bumphead wrasse was vital to keep reefs free from crown-of-thorns starfish, which eat the coral. But the bumphead, whose large lips are considered an aphrodisiac, said to sell for up to £200 a dish, has been severely overfished. Many fishermen use cyanide to drug the fish and this kills many other species and damages large areas of coral. Snorkellers and divers have also been asked to avoid damaging reefs. Dr Elizabeth Wood, coral reef conservation officer for the Marine Conservation Society, said yesterday: "Several studies have show that about 10 per cent of corals are damaged by poor diving practices at popular sites."



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Rifkind flies out for 'last chance' Hong Kong visit

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

MALCOLM RIFKIND leaves today for Hong Kong on his last visit to the colony before the general election, and almost certainly the last by a British Foreign Secretary before it reverts to Chinese sovereignty.

En route he will have an important meeting on Friday in Singapore with Qian Qichen, the Chinese Foreign Minister. The encounter is widely seen as the last chance to avert bitter wrangling in the final months of British rule and ensure a dignified handover of Hong Kong at midnight on June 30.

In 90 minutes of private talks, Mr Rifkind will urge China to reconsider its recent proposals for the territory, in particular the curbs on the Bill of Rights. Mr Rifkind will tell Mr Qian that this has produced widespread alarm in Hong Kong as well as uncertainty abroad over Chinese intentions.

He will also repeat his objection to the setting up of a provisional Legislative Council, for which there is no provision in Hong Kong's Basic Law, agreed in 1984. He will tell Mr Qian that the council is illegal, undermines the authority of the Hong Kong Government, and is likely to lead to legal difficulties, such as the status of a future new head of the Court of Final Appeal whose nomination must be legally endorsed by the Legislative Council.

British sources say that Mr Rifkind is hoping for a quiet, non-confrontational meeting, and is heartened by the fact that his four previous meetings with Mr Qian in the past 18 months — in London, Beijing, The Hague and New York — have all gone well and led to good results. There will be a brief statement after the talks, and the next day Mr Rifkind goes on to Hong Kong. There, he will meet the Legislative Council, due to be abolished by China, and its 33 members who have been nominated by Beijing to the provisional council.

He will also listen to the concerns of Hong Kong citizens over the transition, emphasise Britain's commitment to its former colony after June 30, and hold discussions with Tung Chee-hwa, named by China as the next Chief Executive of the territory. Mr Tung will be invited to London at any time that suits him.

In Singapore, during an unusually long four-day stopover, Mr Rifkind will attend a summit of the Association of South-East Asian Nations, and hold talks on Britain's forthcoming hosting of a second meeting of the Asia-Europe meeting.

He will hold talks with the recently re-elected Singapore Government. But although he has reservations over the strong-arm tactics used during the campaign against opposition candidates, he is unlikely to voice public criticism of the Singapore Government.

☐ **Hong Kong:** Elton John, the pop star, will give two concerts on June 28 and 29 to mark Hong Kong's handover. He is the first major performer to agree to appear, after several refusals by the Three Tenors and others (Jonathan Mirsky writes). John is said to be a favourite of Chris Patten, the Governor. It is estimated that takeover ceremonies will cost $30 million (£18 million).

Curfew after Xinjiang riot

Beijing: The Chinese authorities have imposed a curfew on the town of Tining, in the restive north-western Xinjiang region, after at least ten people were killed in a separatist Muslim riot last week, officials and local residents said. Muslims burnt shops and beat up Han Chinese to protest against Beijing rule. *(Reuter)*

ELDER BRAVO / EPA

Rosalia Arteaga, left, with her sister Claudia, at Quito's National Palace after Congress confirmed her as Ecuador's interim President

Ecuador's military salutes woman President

FROM JOANNA PITMAN IN QUITO

BRASS bands and full military pomp greeted the appointment of Rosalia Arteaga, the former Vice-President, as interim President of Ecuador, charged with leading the country until Congress gets to grips with a constitutional enigma that has baffled the keenest minds in the Andean nation.

The confusion arose after Congress dismissed President Bucarám, self-styled *El Loco* (the madman), last Thursday on the ground of mental incompetence, following mass protests over steep price rises and alleged presidential corruption. When Congress nominated its Speaker, Fabián Alarcón, as temporary head of state, Dr Arteaga staked her claim for the post and narrowly won a second congressional vote. However, the tussle for power is far from over.

Dr Arteaga, Equador's first woman President, immediately consolidated her position, saying that Congress must amend the Constitution to clarify the succession procedure and that this would take at least a couple of months. She has begun outlining her policies on the economy, the territorial dispute with Peru, and Ecuador's fight against poverty.

"We will not rush into any changes. This needs to be done legally and constitutionally. Meanwhile, I am elected President," she said.

Dr Arteaga, who trained as a journalist before embarking on a career as a secondary school teacher, has proven a skilled operator in the world of Equador's brutal power politics and appears to have secured the backing of the military for her new role.

Indeed, perhaps the most positive outcome of the upheavals is that the military, which in the past would have leapt in to take control at the slightest hint of a power vacuum, has so far shown restraint.

Talks on successor to Mother Teresa

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

NUNS from the worldwide Missionaries of Charity are in Calcutta to choose a successor to Mother Teresa, who has decided she is too ill to continue as Mother Superior General.

Mother Teresa, 86, now spends much of her time in bed with severe back pain. She continues to give instructions to Sister Joseph Michael, her secretary, but rarely ventures out. She has been in hospital several times since August with heart problems, malaria and pneumonia.

"I cannot carry on like this," she has told those close to her. She had previously asked to be relieved of her position in 1990 and 1994, but was persuaded to carry on. This time, however, it is clear that she is in no condition to remain head of the order she founded in 1948.

The Missionaries of Charity, operating in 120 countries, receive millions of pounds of donations a year, largely because of Mother Teresa's international reputation. There are fears that, without her, contributions could fall. Most of the 126 members of the Chapter General are in Calcutta.

The announcement of a successor was expected last week, but consensus is proving difficult and could take a few weeks. The exact procedure for choosing the new Mother Superior General is not known, but Sister Joseph Michael, the leading contender, said: "None of them is campaigning openly, as it is against our culture."

Mother Teresa is understood to have secretly informed the Pope of her personal choice, probably Sister Joseph Michael. Theoretically, a new head of the order should be chosen every six years, but there has never been any serious suggestion of a successor so long as Mother Teresa was fit enough.

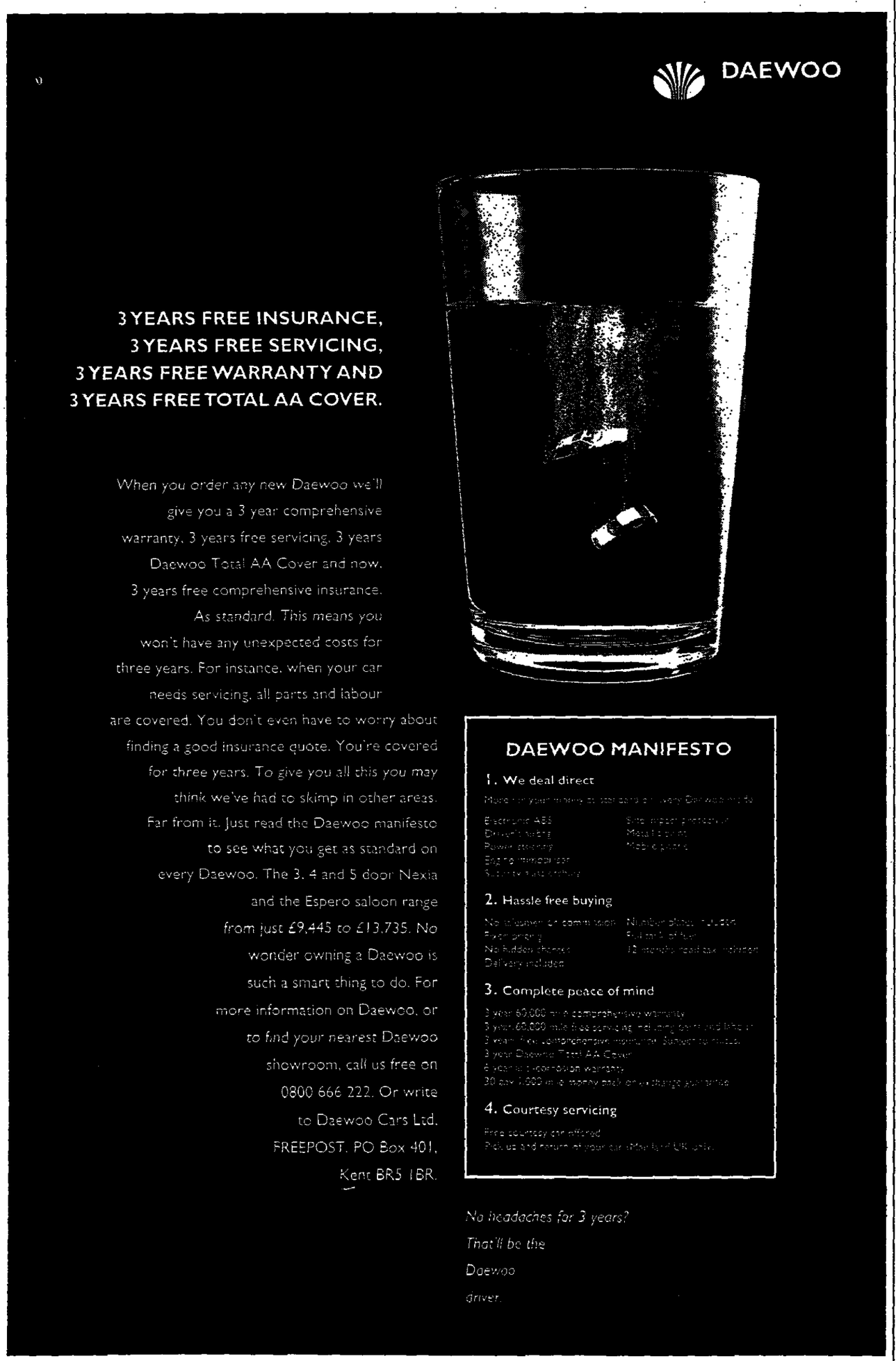
Israelis to quit more of West Bank

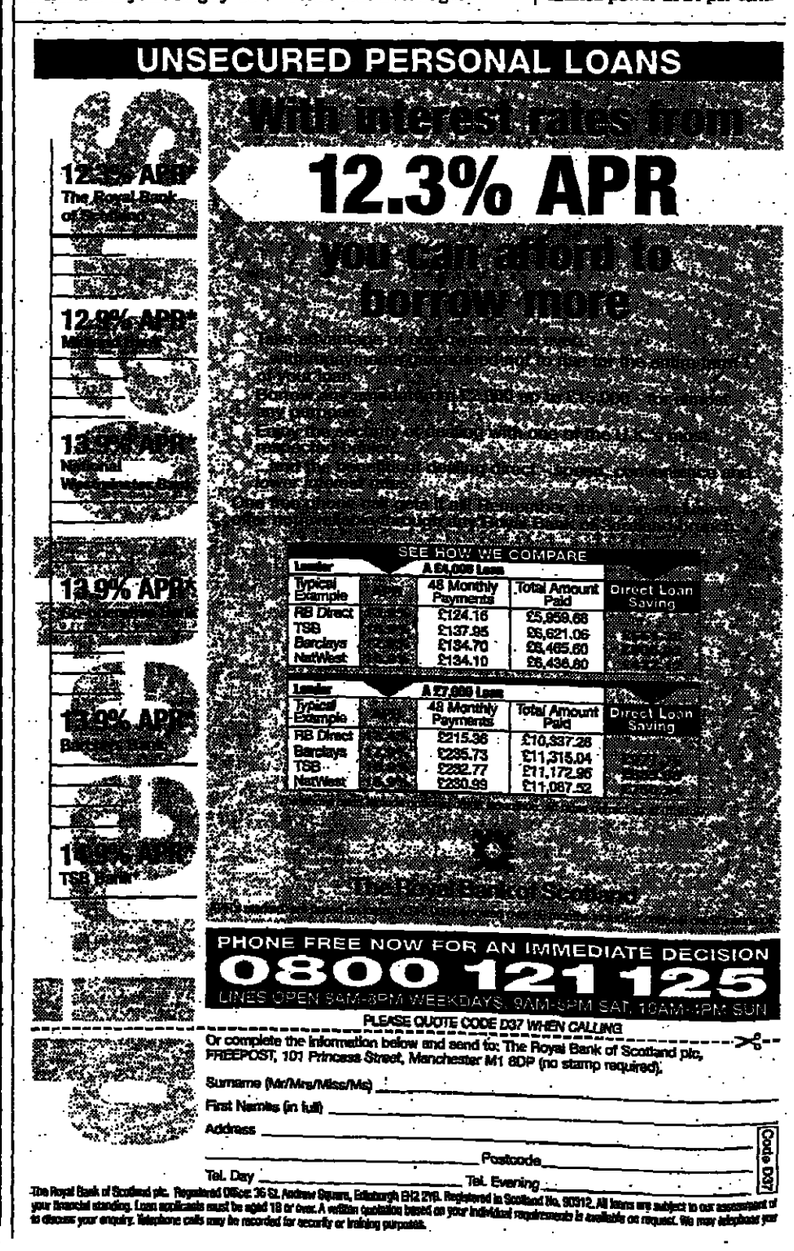
FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

THE Middle East peace process moved into a new phase yesterday as Binyamin Netanyahu convened a special Cabinet meeting to begin discussions for the next stage of Israeli troop withdrawal from the occupied West Bank.

Yesterday's session came hours after the Israeli Prime Minister concluded a two-hour summit with the Palestinian leader, Yassir Arafat, hailed by both sides as positive. That will be followed today by the release of 23 Palestinian women prisoners as a goodwill gesture.

Yediot Ahronot reported yesterday that Israel plans to pull out from a further 5 per cent of West Bank territory next month. At present Mr Arafat's autonomy administration has full control over only 3 per cent of West Bank land — the main cities — and limited power in 24 per cent.





Whitewater inquiry seizes on story of Clinton affair

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

CLAIMS that Bill Clinton once had a close personal relationship with Susan McDougal — the jailed former wife of Jim McDougal, the Clintons' partner in Whitewater — are being investigated by Kenneth Starr, the special Whitewater prosecutor, *The New Yorker* magazine reports this week.

In a dramatic reversal of his previous testimony, Mr McDougal is also said to have told prosecutors that Mr Clinton was present at a meeting in 1986 where an illegal loan of $300,000 from the Small Business Administration to Mrs McDougal was discussed.

Mr McDougal, who owned Madison Guaranty, the bank at the heart of the Whitewater affair, claimed he learnt of the alleged affair in 1982, when his wife had just returned from a trip to Europe and he intercepted a call between the couple when he tried to call her at home.

"How should I say this? They were intimate," the former banker told *The New Yorker*. "This may be difficult to understand, but I didn't really care. Our relationship had evolved ... we had become more business partners, companions."

Interviewed in prison, Mrs McDougal said her former husband had deliberately concocted the story to commute the 84-year sentence he faces after he was convicted on 18 charges last year. "He's lying," she said. "I'm a small-town country girl, a Southern Baptist. I wouldn't do it ... Jim wanted me to have an affair with Clinton. The truth is he said he would not have sex with me again ... but he did want me to have sex with other people."

Under normal circumstances, the alleged relationship between Mr Clinton and Mrs McDougal would be irrelevant. America has long believed that Mr Clinton was a philanderer during his Arkansas days, and the sexual harassment suit brought by Paula Jones, a former state employee who claims he asked her to perform oral sex, has merely confirmed that belief.

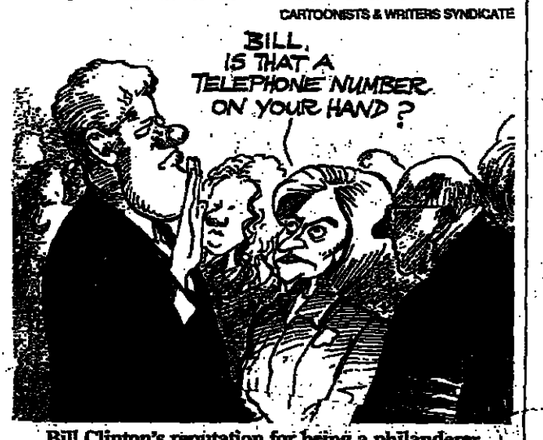
But prosecutors believe that any close relationship between Mr Clinton and Mrs McDougal could explain the allegation by David Hale, an Arkansas banker, that the then Governor pressed him to solicit the $300,000 from the Small Business Administration. On his own, Mr McDougal is not seen as a credible witness. He has changed his story too often. He now says he failed five lie-detector tests at the start of the inquiry, when he was trying to protect Mr Clinton by saying the President had no involvement in the loan.

There is no doubt, however, that Mr Starr is taking the matter seriously. Last week he obtained a delay in sentencing on the basis that Mr McDougal was offering "new and important" information.

But Pat Harris, Mrs McDougal's partner since she separated from her husband, said he did not believe the two were having an affair. But, he said, they were always flirting. "The whole sexual atmosphere in that place was something that I didn't want her around. And, yes, I was jealous of Bill Clinton," said Mr Harris.

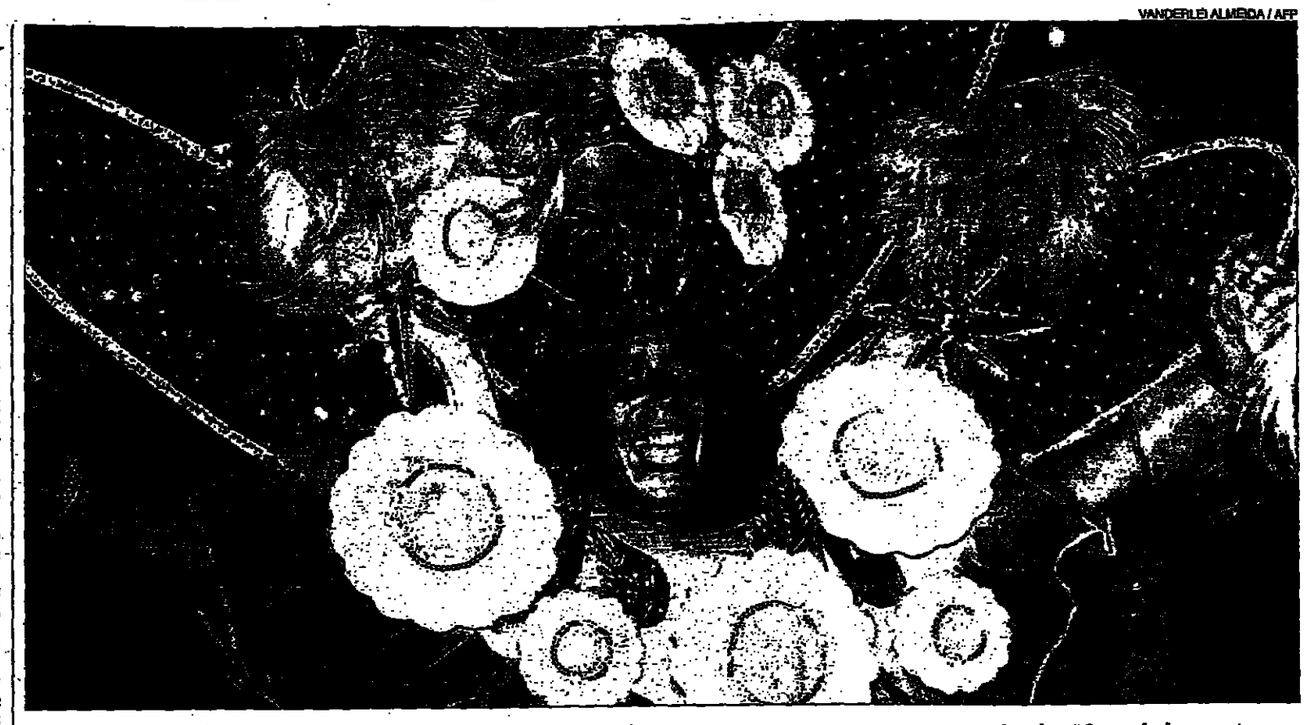
Mrs McDougal is currently serving an 18-month sentence in a jail outside Los Angeles for civil contempt charges. She had flatly refused last year to answer questions before the grand jury in Little Rock about whether Mr Clinton gave truthful testimony at the Whitewater trial of herself, her former husband and Jim Guy Tucker, the President's successor as Governor.

CARTOONISTS & WRITERS SYNDICATE



Bill Clinton's reputation for being a philanderer as viewed by the *Toronto Star* cartoonist, Andy

VANDERLEI ALMEIDA / AFP



A dancer performs at the Sambadrome during the opening of this year's carnival in Rio de Janeiro.

Rio bodies take corporate turn

Spectacular as the show is — it earns organisers more than £600 million — the city's inhabitants try to give it a miss to avoid the arrival of 300,000 tourists (Gabriella Gamini writes). "It used to be a week when people let all their inhibitions go and danced to samba on the streets non-stop. I now prefer to get out of town," said Pedro Murilo, a marketing executive. The best seats at the Sambadrome are taken by multinational companies who sponsor the "show". The *cariocas* — the locals — have also lost out to tourists in the parade itself. Tour packages, which include a costume and a part in the samba school parade, have sold like hot cakes on the Internet. For about £150, Internet surfers choose from a series of glittering costumes, and type in their shoesize. "On arrival you get your costume and get given a time to turn up and take part," said Sarah Morgan, 29, a public relations manager, from London. She is part of a group of 20 Britons who will dress up as mermaids and fishermen to take part in the Beija Flor samba school parade, one of a dozen schools who compete over four days.

Stallone crowned king of stinkers

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

SYLVESTER STALLONE has blasted his way onto the least envied pedestal in Hollywood by winning an unmatched thirteenth consecutive nomination for the Worst Actor prize in this year's Golden Raspberry awards.

If proof were needed that actions speak louder than words, Stallone provided it yet again in *Daylight*, according to the 475 film-makers, journalists and fans who vote on the annual antidote to the Oscars. His role as the unwitting hero of a New York road tunnel disaster has made the "Balboa Bozo", as the Golden Raspberry Foundation calls Stallone in honour of his Oscar-winning performance as Rocky Balboa, the "all-time Razzie champion".

Daylight flopped at the American box office, earning back less than half its budget, but in a year described by the foundation's spokesman as "wall to wall with cinematic stinkers" it was squeezed off the list of Worst Picture nominees.

These included *Barb Wire*, Pamela Anderson Lee's big-screen debut, the *Island of Dr Moreau*, featuring Marlon Brando, and *Striptease*, with Demi Moore.

Brando and Moore were also nominated for their individual performances, but Anderson, the former *Baywatch* star, trumped them both with a nomination for her leading role as a leather-clad night-club owner, and a separate one for her breasts as Worst Screen Couple.

Striptease, which confirmed producers' fears that America's appetite for screen flesh is finite, leads the pack, or pummel, with six Raspberry nominations in all, including one for Worst Original Song.

This year's Oscar nominations are due to be announced today.

Stallone: film flopped

Further jail term for Hollywood Madam

FROM REUTER IN LOS ANGELES

REPUTED Hollywood Madam Heidi Fleiss pleaded guilty in a plea bargain yesterday to one count of attempted pandering and was sentenced by the court to 18 months in prison.

In return for the guilty plea made by Fleiss, the state dropped two other felony pandering charges and the judge ordered that her prison term run concurrently with her 37-month federal sentence for tax evasion handed down at an earlier hearing.

Fleiss, who ran a call-girl ring catering to the rich and famous in Hollywood, was sentenced last month in federal court to 37 months for the tax evasion and money-laundering associated with the prostitution racket.

In 1995 she had been found guilty in state court of pandering — procuring women for prostitution — but that conviction was overturned for jury misconduct.

The judge then ordered a retrial.

Since her federal conviction, lawyers for Fleiss had been negotiating with prosecutors to drop the state retrial.

As a result of the plea-bargain, the time Fleiss serves in federal prison will count as time served in state prison.

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Bruno Mégret emerges as standard-bearer of French Far Right

Le Pen put in shade by town hall triumph

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

BRUNO MEGRET, the deputy leader of the National Front, was being tipped as the future face of the French far Right yesterday after his wife stormed to victory in municipal elections in southern France.

Catherine Mégret, who stood in for her husband after he was disqualified for campaign overspending, won 52.5 per cent of the vote in the town of Vitrolles on Sunday, in a mayoral election that gave the Front control over a fourth city hall and sent tremors through the political establishment.

M Mégret has left no doubt that he, rather than his wife, will be responsible for running Vitrolles, and the successful Front campaign has confirmed his position as the man most likely to succeed the veteran party leader, Jean-Marie Le Pen.

At the age of 69, M Le Pen has given no hint that he intends to step down as Front supremo, while M Mègret has been equally careful to avoid suggestions that he is anything but utterly loyal to the leader of the anti-immigration party. But in remarks made immediately after Sunday's election, M Le Pen was quick, perhaps too quick, to assert there was no number two in his party.

With his own personal power base established in Vitrolles, M Mégret, 47, is uniquely positioned to take over the reins of the Front if and when M Le Pen relinquishes control, or loses it.

For France's mainstream parties, that is a deeply troubling prospect. M Le Pen, a one-eyed former soldier with a taste for belligerent rhetoric, often loses as many votes as he gains with his overt xenophobia. M Mégret is far more subtle and, many say, sinister.

Since defecting from the Gaullist camp to the far Right in 1981, M Mégret has steadily built up a reputation as the party's main strategist and ideologue. While M Le Pen has gained headlines by declaring his belief in "the inequality of the races", M Mégret has honed and modernised the anti-immigration and anti-European message.

Educated at one of France's top universitites, M Mégret is an intelligent technocrat in the established French bourgeois tradition, but one whose views are, according to observers, even more extreme than those of M Le Pen.

While the party's longtime leader inspires the adoration of neo-Nazis and hardened right-wingers who would vote for the Front anyway, M Mégret has aimed to bring younger, more sophisticated supporters to the party banner with an emphasis on "economic dislocation", the "march of multiculturalism" and the need to secure traditional French rights and beliefs.

It is these voters, many of whom would deny being racist and believe it, who may prove crucial in next year's legislative elections. But M Mégret runs the risk of alienating hard-core Le Pen supporters by his more middle-class and metropolitan image. An extremist in a very different mould from his leader, it is hard to imagine this diminutive, buck-toothed "thinker" singing military songs or challenging rival politicians to fisticuffs.

Yet M Mégret insists he is no soulless political machine. "I am not a cold technocrat. I am not the [Alain] Juppé [the Prime Minister] of the National Front," he said. This week he is expected to capitalise on Sunday's victory by announcing he intends to stand in Vitrolles as a candidate for the National Assembly. He has repeatedly maintained that his relationship with M Le Pen is that of a dutiful son to an adored father. "I have never made the mistake of disputing his preeminence," he said recently.

That was before he became de facto Mayor of Vitrolles, and the second most prominent right-winger in France.

Leading article, page 17

BORIS HORVAT/EPA

Bruno Mégret with his wife Catherine in Vitrolles, the fourth southern French town to fall to the Far Right

Priebke for military court trial

FROM REUTER IN ROME

ITALY'S highest court ruled yesterday that Erich Priebke, the former SS captain, should be retried for war crimes in a military court.

Priebke, 83, is accused of complicity in multiple murder for his role in the SS massacre of 335 men and boys at the Ardeatine Caves near Rome on March 24, 1944. Seventy-five of the victims were Jews. Priebke admits shooting two victims and crossing names off a list, but said that he had to follow orders or be killed himself.

At his first trial, which ended on August 1, a military court found Priebke guilty but ordered him freed, citing extenuating circumstances which triggered an expired statute of limitations. He was rearrested that night after relatives of the massacre's victims laid siege to the courthouse and is still being held in a military prison.

The Court of Cassation will also decide jurisdiction for Karl Hass, Priebke's co-defendant and a former SS major. Hass, 84, admitted a role in the massacre.

Poll win by ex-Yeltsin aide threatens tide of scandal

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

THE Kremlin yesterday received a "slap in the face" from Russian voters after President Yeltsin's disgraced former bodyguard won a by-election.

In a result with potentially serious repercussions for the leadership in Moscow, General Aleksandr Korzhakov, the hardline former KGB officer, made a spectacular return to politics when he won the parliamentary constituency of Tula, an impoverished arms-making city south of Moscow.

The victory, in a crowded field of candidates, including Anatoli Karpov, the chess champion, was a vindication of General Korzhakov's attempt to fight his way back into politics after his dismissal last June in a Kremlin power struggle.

While nobody in Moscow is expecting the former KGB officer to display any great parliamentary skills among the 450 deputies, he could nevertheless cause serious problems for the Kremlin.

During his 11 years as Mr Yeltsin's bodyguard, tennis partner, drinking buddy and closest adviser, the burly secret policeman had unrivalled influence in the Kremlin, where his sinister reputation won him the title "grey cardinal".

Korzhakov: archive of confidential material

At the height of his power he ran a small private army of special forces troops and intelligence officers, and amassed a wealth of confidential information about every leading figure in the Moscow hierarchy. His archive of *kompromat* (compromising material) was reportedly held in a Swiss safety deposit box because General Korzhakov feared retaliation if he went public. Now that he is a member of the Duma, the lower house, he is immune from prosecution and free to retaliate, in particular against his arch-rival, Anatoli Chubais, the head of the presidential administration and the architect of his fall from grace.

Vladimir Kisilyov, the presenter of the weekly current affairs programme *Itogi*, predicted at the weekend that a win by the ousted general would amount to a "slap in the face for the authorities".

"The compromising materials with which he has so far only threatened everybody will probably start to be published," Kiselyov said.

In addition to his threat to expose corruption at the highest levels of the Government, General Korzhakov could also play a pivotal role in assisting Aleksandr Lebed, the former army officer with presidential ambitions.

General Lebed, whose resignation from parliament caused the Tula by-election, initially endorsed General Korzhakov's candidacy. The latter, who still has powerful allies, may return the favour and back General Lebed.

Top Spanish judge shot dead by Eta outside his home

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

A SENIOR judge of the Spanish Supreme Court, Rafael Martínez Emperador, was murdered yesterday by the Basque separatist group Eta.

Judge Martínez, 69, was shot by two men in Madrid's fashionable Retiro district. He was the highest-ranking serving judicial figure killed during Eta's 30-year campaign.

Earlier Eta had detonated a car bomb in Granada, killing a civilian air force worker. At least eight others were injured in the early-morning blast, set off by remote control, one seriously.

In a separate incident Eugenio Aranburu Landa, an executive member of Herri Batasuna, Eta's political wing, was found hanged at his farmhouse in Mallabia in the Basque country. He is believed to have committed suicide. Señor Aranburu was due to appear before the Supreme Court yesterday to answer criminal charges of inciting violence and advocating terrorism.

Judge Martínez, who had completed ten years on the Supreme Court yesterday, is thought to have been targeted because of his membership of the tribunal. The Court of Basque radicals last week by imprisoning five members of Herri Batasuna's leadership for failing to appear before the court on charges similar to those facing Señor Aranburu. Judge Martínez's death brings to four the total of judges killed by Eta over the last year.

The Granada blast killed Domingo Puente Marín, a barber, who worked at the Armilla air base. Jaime Mayor Oreja, the Interior Minister, cut short an official trip to Jerusalem to visit the scene of the blast. King Juan Carlos described the killings as "blind and sterile violence".

Yesterday's killings come in the wake of the murder last month of an army colonel, shot by a woman Eta guerrilla. This month a salesman at a bicycle shop in San Sebastián was shot dead, apparently for working with anti-terrorist intelligence officers.

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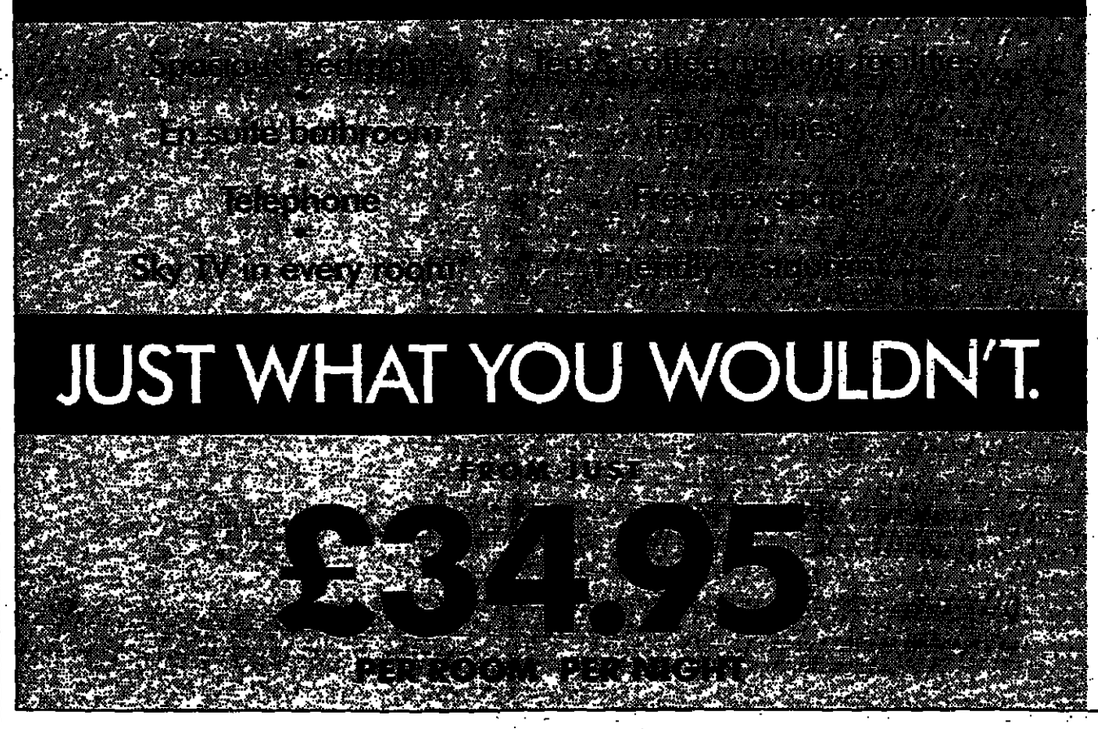

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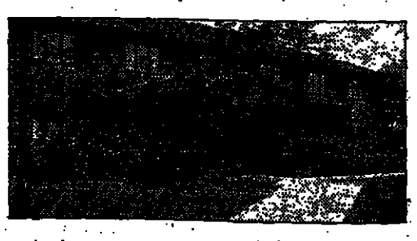

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Three die as street battles intensify in Albanian port

By Richard Owen and Our Foreign Staff

THE death toll in anti-government riots in the Albanian port of Vlore rose to three yesterday and the opposition accused the police of opening fire on protesters. One man died of bullet wounds.

Hundreds were injured in clashes on the sixth successive day of demonstrations in Vlore, 60 miles south of Tirana, the capital. One man, 48, died on Sunday after he was kicked on the ground in rioting and taken to hospital covered in blood. Police said he had died of a heart attack.

A second man, 51, was also reported to have died of a heart attack yesterday. But hospital sources said the third victim, a man of 30, had bullet wounds "from shoulder to spine" and had died after an emergency operation and blood tranfusions.

The Vlore disturbances are the latest in a month-long eruption of angry protests across the country over savings lost in failed pyramid investment schemes. In the centre of Vlore, thousands of demonstrators threw stones and furniture at riot police, who retreated to nearby rooftops.

Rumours circulated that dozens of men had been arrested late on Sunday. Although there was no official confirmation, the enraged crowd moved on the police station. From the rooftops, police hurled lumps of concrete down on protesters below, although without appearing to hit their target. Demonstrators sent back a fresh hail of stones.

A lone water cannon made a doomed sortie to disperse the crowds. It soon ran out of water and retreated, its reinforced windscreen smashed by stones. Gunfire rattled from the direction of the police station and cars, coloured flags flying from their windows, sped out of the area to carry the wounded to hospital.

With police pinned down inside the building and the stream of projectiles slowing down, parents brought small children out on to streets to survey the damage and jeer at police who were still waiting on the surrounding hills.

"They might come down again but we're ready for them," said Nikolla, a protester. "We don't want war, we just want our money back. If they push us, we'll fight to the end. We have nothing left to lose."

In one incident, about 20 riot police were cornered by youths who rained stones down on them from a terrace above a café. The officers were surrounded by the crowd, beaten and stripped. The demonstrators let them go but made a pile of their uniforms, guns and riot shields and burned them. Residents were convinced that they were confronting not regular police but special forces dispatched by President Berisha to retake control of the city.

The officers, who were naked but for their underwear, took refuge in local houses. The police said that they had fired in the air before being overwhelmed, but some protesters said shots had been aimed at them and showed journalists buckshot wounds.

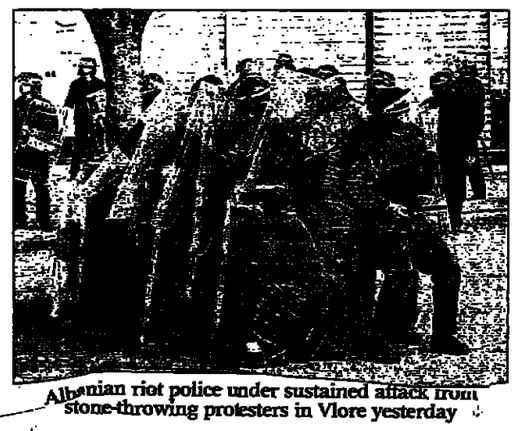
During running battles elderly men and women smashed up paving stones by the side of the road to keep younger demonstrators constantly supplied with ammunition. Police fought back, but their lines quickly fell apart and many beat a hasty retreat to the hills.

What began as a demand for the refund of lost savings is increasingly turning into a movement to overthrow the right-wing Government of President Berisha.

A pro-Western former heart surgeon, Mr Berisha was elected in 1992 on a wave of euphoria after the collapse of communism. But many Albanians believe that he either sponsored or — at the very least — failed to control pyramid-fund operators, many of whom are Albania's leading entrepreneurs and have close links to the President's Democratic Party.

In a statement, the Government said that the protests, like previous demonstrations, were the work of "left-wing extremists" within the opposition Socialists, the former Communists. The statement said that the riots had begun with a "sudden and groundless attack on the Vlore police station by people, some of whom were drunk".

But opposition leaders said the Government was cracking down brutally on even the smallest protests in an attempt to prevent them becoming a general uprising against the Berisha regime. In one incident at the weekend, opposition leaders sitting with journalists in a Tirana café frequented by left-wing activists and intellectuals were attacked by uniformed police who burst in and struck them on the head with truncheons.



Albanian riot police under sustained attack from stone-throwing protesters in Vlore yesterday

Knights of Castile on quest for Cuban damsels

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

THIRTY Spanish peasants, despairing bachelors to a man, will embark on an expedition to Havana this weekend in an attempt to find, and marry, 30 Cuban women.

The group comprises every single unmarried man in the tiny village of Arabayona, near Salamanca, in central Spain. Aged between 25 and 40, the men, all potato farmers, will be accompanied by Joaquin Ramos, the Mayor, who is married. He said: "Someone needs to supervise this expedition and I know a bit more about marriage than these fellows do."

The plight of Arabayona's men is easily explained. A mere 200 people live there, and virtually every woman of marriageable age has left to live and work in Salamanca.

The idea for a marriage expedition to Cuba arose last April when Nemesio Ramos, 40, returned with a young wife, Sandra, after a brief holiday there. With her sunny disposition and exotic looks, Sandra was an instant hit with the men of this arid Castilian village. She spread the word that there were many more women in Cuba just like her.

The men of Arabayona are not alone in their quest for Cuban wives. The Spanish Consulate-General in Havana registers an average of 50 marriages a week between Spanish men and Cuban women, and that figure is rising. A new trend, that of Spanish women marrying Cuban men, has been detected as well; a dozen such marriages now take place a week.

Most Spanish men, however, travel to Cuba with less honourable motives. Twenty flights leave Spain for Havana every week, carrying a yearly total of about 200,000 single males, most of them in search of cut-price sex.

President Castro's impoverished island is now the Spanish-speaking "Bangkok". Poverty has driven thousands of Cuban women to prostitution. Next week, however, it could also propel a few of them into the arms of honest, diligent potato farmers from Arabayona.

Elfriede Blauensteiner brandishing a crucifix on arriving at court in the Austrian town of Krems yesterday to face a charge of poisoning a pensioner in her care

Black Widow 'would never kill'

FROM REUTER IN KREMS, AUSTRIA

THE trial of an Austrian woman suspected by police of a murder spree spanning more than a decade opened yesterday in Krems, 30 miles west of Vienna.

Elfriede Blauensteiner, 66, dubbed the "Black Widow" by the press, is charged with poisoning Alois Pichler, a pensioner, with fatal doses of medication. Police are investigating three other deaths.

Frau Blauensteiner arrived at the court wearing a beige suit and clutching a metal crucifix. "My hands are clean. I've nothing to hide," she told reporters, smiling. Asked if she would plead guilty, she said: "I would never kill. I believe in my innocence."

Police said Frau Blauensteiner confessed to five murders during the initial investigation but later withdrew the confession. Police suspect she killed for money to finance a gambling addiction. She says that she enjoyed nursing older men.

The prosecution alleged yesterday that Frau Blauensteiner gave Pichler anti-depressant tablets, left him in a room with the windows open all night and then put him under a hot shower, causing his fatal heart attack.

Croat gun attack on Muslims

Sarajevo: Four Bosnians were hit by gunfire when Croats opened fire on Muslims who were visiting a cemetery in the divided Bosnian city of Mostar, the United Nations reported. Three explosions rocked the city on Sunday night as hand-held rockets were fired in tit-for-tat exchanges. *(AFP)*

Ramadan toll

Paris: Twenty-two people, including four families, were killed in Algeria in violence coinciding with the end of Ramadan. In all, 300 died over the fasting period. *(Reuter)*

200-car crash

Padua: About 50 people were injured, one seriously, in a 200-car pile-up in heavy fog on the A13 motorway near Venice. Traffic in both directions had to be diverted. *(Reuter)*

Blast deaths

Phnom Penh: A grenade blast, possibly linked to a gambling dispute, killed five people in the southern Cambodian river port of Kampot, an Interior Ministry official said. *(Reuter)*

30 students die

Lagos: Thirty students died when their bus collided with a lorry in northern Nigeria, the News Agency of Nigeria said. They were returning home for the end of Ramadan. *(Reuter)*

Punk clash

Magdeburg: Punk rockers protesting at the killing of a member of their left-wing group clashed with police overnight in this eastern German city. Three were arrested. *(Reuter)*

Crime watch

Nancy: A burglar who stole a video tape from a paedophile reported him to the authorities, a court heard here. It showed Michel Chrétien, 48, having sex with young girls. *(AFP)*

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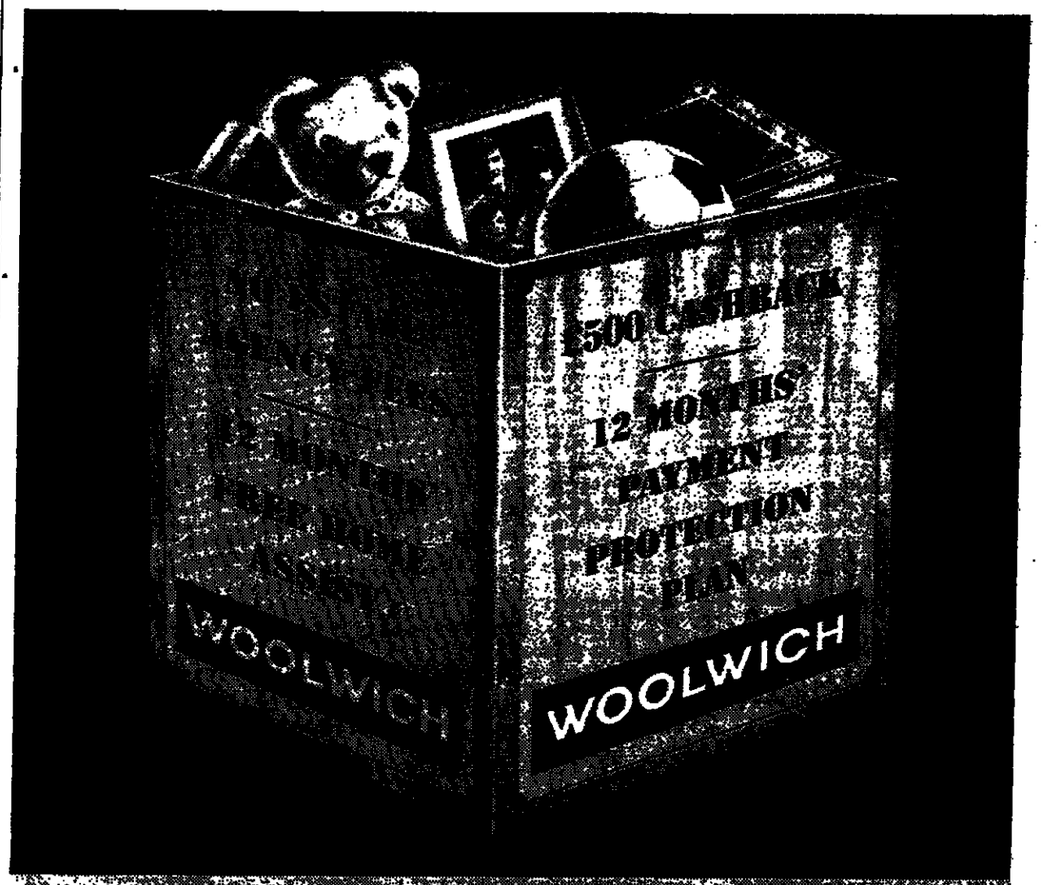

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Adoption v abortion: Two adoptive parents, **Richard Whitfield** and **Liv O'Hanlon**, on the need for change

A sacrifice of love

'Ten years beyond the passage of the 1967 Abortion Act, there were very few babies for adoption, so we were lucky as a family to be chosen in this way'

My wife, Shirley, and I adopted our first son in 1965 as a baby and, after having two "home-produced" sons, we adopted a baby girl in 1977 as a result of the birth mother's preference to have her daughter grow up in a ready-made family of natural and adopted children.

Ten years beyond the passage of the 1967 Abortion Act, there were very few babies available for adoption, so we were lucky as a family to be chosen in this way.

I remember being chilled when our adopted son, at the age of 20, remarked: "Of course, Dad, if I'd been conceived in the mid-80s rather than the mid-60s, the chances are that I'd never have been." This is uncomfortable stuff, but the adopted in particular speak for the unborn. Our two adopted young people's deepest feelings lie behind this piece.

The nation's conscience about child and family welfare is uneasy and has been for some time. The high incidence of family breakdown, child neglect and concern about delinquency among the young are not a passing phenomenon.

During my adult life children have been moved towards the periphery of adult priorities. This is reflected in a range of public policies and private decisions. Crucial is the need of all children for secure early attachments. We are still far too slow to learn that only rarely can substitute childcare and schooling act as replacements for secure attachments at a place called "home".

Both adoption and abortion have recently been pushed on to political agendas. Adoption because it has been in decline as a child welfare option. Abortion because this election year is the thirtieth anniversary of the 1967 Act which, in effect, sanctioned abortion for social convenience. The two issues are entirely separated legally, and are generally discussed as if there were no connections. This is a tragedy for our society.

For every woman, and her male lover/partner, an unwanted pregnancy implicitly, if not practically, faces them with the abortion versus adoption option.

Many of those faced with an unwanted pregnancy seem not to consider the adoption option seriously because such a course of action has become both stigmatised and rare in terms of follow-through. That is partly because the essentially Judaeo-Christian link between love and personal sacrifice has become culturally diminished. Over the past 30 years, the number of children who have been adopted as babies before their first birthday has declined from about 12,000 to a mere 350 per year. There is no legal obligation on medical advisers or social workers to explain the adoption option to biological parents who cannot cope with the long-term practical consequences of their pregnancy. This is a serious weakness in abortion-related advice.

I believe that many more women would select the adoption option if it were clearly explained in terms of likely advantages, including long-term personal health. Adoption is, for all but a small minority, a huge success story. If it can be arranged earlier rather than later in a child's life, then so much the better. Currently, there are far too many delays within local authorities' childcare registers, where adoption is too often seen as the last resort.

For all of us, life begins with an attachment, when a fertilised egg lodges securely at the wall of our biological mother's uterus. Such secure and nourishing attachments, and later safe separations, are deep metaphors for much of our later life story.

The high prevalence of social abortion feeds a culture of disposability, corroding a sense of commitment to life and to each other. As voters, we need to be more forthright about having an election agenda which is devised as if people, including our young citizens, matter.

Sober reflection upon the many insecurities within our creaking social ecology will not be able to duck abortion or adoption, nor our need for stable attachments, and the urgency of developing a raft of policies which will provide better education and protection for dual parenting and long-term partnering. Such may be for some a moral crusade. More wisely, it needs portraying as simple "good housekeeping and homemaking", to sustain both an efficient economy and a society in which all can truly be proud to live, because everyone knows that they matter.

● *Richard Whitfield is Emeritus Professor of Education at the University of Aston, and Warden of St George's House, a non-aligned charitable study centre in Windsor Castle, where he has co-ordinated a series of Consultations of Family Policy.*

ALAN WELLER

Liv O'Hanlon and her children: the adoption of her two Latin American-born sons has taken six years and one month and it is not over yet

For our children's sake

So far it has taken us six years and one month to make our two Latin American-born sons truly ours, or, rather, it has taken the adoption system that long, and we're not through it yet. Our second boy, who is 27 months old, and has been with us for 20 of those, is still causing files to be enlarged and legal minds to ponder. We don't expect him to be a legal member of our family until the summer. Six-and-a-half years, maybe more, to give two boys a familiy. Seventy-six months of non-stop dealing with social workers, local authorities, adoption agencies, lawyers, guardians ad litem, courts and judges.

You may think that this time

It has taken longer for them to bring two children into their family than for us. They started before we did and will have to wait many more months before their second child is legally signed over. And, although she was given up at birth for adoption, she was two-and-a-half when placed with them.

They are not so unusual. As last month's Social Services Inspectorate report, *For Children's Sake*, revealed, 23 per cent of children waited three years to be adopted, and 37 per cent of approved adopters wait two years for a child.

Adoption is a mess and John Major has declared twice recently that Something Must Be Done. Political correctness must be eradicated, he says. Social workers must be stopped from preventing people becoming parents. Privatisation is the answer. He says. Reform is certainly vital. But the Government has made promises for years. Little has happened other than the increased strength of bureaucracy. For example, the dozen or so bundles of documents required for international adoptions, including the notorious home assessment, have to wend their way across 13 central government desks before they leave the country.

On the domestic front, the Children Act 1989, with its laudable intention of putting children first, added more complications because social workers interpret that it requires endless attempts at rehabilitating broken families (a practice shown at its most pitiful and futile in the case of Rikki Neave).

Hopes were buoyed up when an Adoption Bill was conceived. Its aim was to smooth out the domestic system and bring inter-country adoption within the law. After three years of drafting, Mr Major decided to announce its inclusion in this session's legislative programme. Then he dumped it.

Most recently, the Government-funded Overseas Adoption Helpline, the only concrete help for international adoptions, had its funds cut off. In four years it serviced 13,000 calls from adoption workers, lawyers, local authorities and potential adopters. It limps on until March and then ... death.

So it is very hard to believe our Prime Minister's resolve when he says he wants to reform adoption. And while endlessly criticising social workers, Mr Major proposes nothing to improve their appalling performance, has not explained who will take on the nitty-gritty of adoption if it is — as he wants — removed from "politically correct" social workers.

Labour has yet to reveal any radical intentions. But maybe something stirs: its spokeswoman on children, Anne Coffey, speaks firmly on the need for improved training and monitoring of social workers. "Social workers must meet minimum standards. They should be checked out every few years and if they don't reach those standards, out they must go."

> 'A new central, responsible adoption authority is vital'

Over the years, common sense seems to have deserted social work. Common sense suggests that, all things being equal, a child will be better off in a family that reflects his first family's origins. But common sense also says if a child is, say, a quarter Vietnamese, a quarter Caribbean, and half English, it is hard to find a similar family. We were twice passed by our south London local authority as suitable to adopt from abroad children racially different from ourselves. But when we asked to be considered for one of Lambeth's non-white charges, we were told to go away because we were not a mixed-race family.

Other ideologies have also clouded the adoption debate. The Right wants to see state-supported single mothers divested of their children; the Left sees adoption as the pernicious rich buying the birthright of the poor. Then in jumps the anti-abortion brigade declaring that if the 160,000 women a year who legally abort are prevented from doing so, lots of jolly nice respectable infertile people could be made into parents.

Many of those women would choose abortion even if it meant a life-threatening visit to the back streets. But equally, it is absurd that women who are unwillingly pregnant are given only two options, either keep it or kill it. Surely adoption could be mentioned as a possibility.

Reality for children in care is grim, as are the numbers. A government statistician unofficially told me that 250,000 was "a reasonable, probably rather low, annual figure" for the number of children looked after by social services.

The results of long-term care are horrendous: the majority pass through six or more carers and leave at 16 with no education; many end up living on the streets, fall into drug abuse and prostitution, or end up in prison. [illegible] adoptions from care are finalised each year, yet adoption has a high rate of success in terms of stability, education and career.

What adoption needs is radical reform, not just a quiet tinkering with the status quo. A new central adoption authority is vital. It must be responsible and accountable directly to government and the public. It must have four chief tasks: to establish good practice, which includes setting down and monitoring time-limits for children in care (already demanded under the Children Act, but often ignored); to license, inspect and regulate a multiplicity of agencies, both domestic and inter-country; to run a computerised central register of adoptable children and approved couples so that matching can be quicker and easier; and lastly, to provide a place of appeal for those adults — or children — caught in the net.

This adoption authority, proposed jointly by the Adoption Forum and the Campaign for InterCountry Adoption, would bring the same standards to both domestic and foreign adoptions, just as the experts have always demanded. [illegible] a better chance, it would make social workers and agencies more responsible; it would help prospective adopters.

Yes, it will cost. But nothing like the amount squandered now on an extremely inefficient and ineffective system. So here is the challenge to government, of whatever party: the system is on its knees; be bold enough to finish it off humanely and institute a better regime.

● *The author is director of the Adoption Forum, an organisation to promote adoption (fax: 0171-793 0393).*

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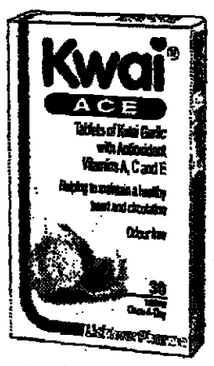

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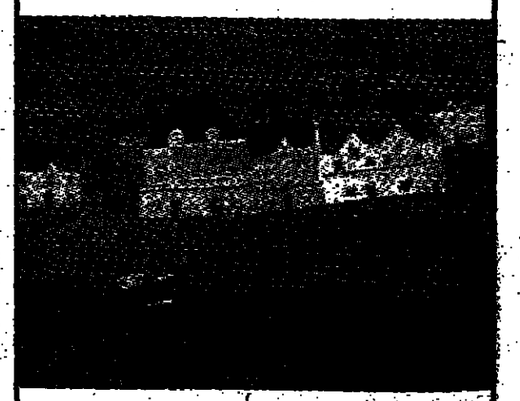

At nineteen, Dorothy Sheffield fell pregnant. Her outraged parents gave her baby away and sent her to an institution for wayward girls where she lived for ten years. At fifty-two Dorothy begins to glimpse another world ...

Out now in paperback

A sleeping partner strikes back

Lorna Wendt is making American legal history by claiming half her husband's fortune, for her role as a 'corporate wife'. Interview by **Quentin Letts**

WITH THAT chilling tingle money men know when big sums are at risk, married millionaires on Wall Street are awaiting a decision in the next few days from a Connecticut divorce court.

To the untrained eye, the saga of *Wendt v Wendt*, currently grinding through the State Superior Court in the commuter town of Stamford, is that unexceptional saga of modern America: a couple, married for 31 years, have realised that their marriage is dead and are going through the agony of divorce.

But not quite. For Gary and Lorna Wendt are exceptionally well off, and it is unusual for such a prosperous couple to take matters to court. Furthermore, Mrs Wendt is gunning for half of her husband's $100 million fortune — something that never normally happens over the $10 million mark.

Lorna Wendt, a 53-year-old, whose eyes are ringed by tiredness and the stress of estrangement, has become the unlikely champion for a newly identified class of Western woman: the "corporate wife". She, like so many women in recent years, saw her husband rise steadily through the ranks of corporate America to the point that he was earning vast sums — reward packages far in excess of those given to previous generations of managers.

While her husband came home gleeful at his good luck, Lorna Wendt was proud and happy for him. After all, she reflected, some of that success was due to her own contribution to the marriage. As Mrs Gary Wendt she not only attended firm events and "played the company line". She also nurtured her husband, soothed him, and generally kept him in the mental condition he needed to have to fulfil his duties as chief executive of GE Capital, one of America's biggest financial concerns. Now that the marriage has come crashing to a halt — he has found a new woman — Lorna Wendt is determined that she should share the fruits of what she argues was a joint enterprise, a 50-50 partnership.

Mrs Wendt cannily describes the marital split in the vernacular of big business. "He wanted to buy out my partnership and I did not want to be bought out," she says. "It is like a hostile takeover." They first started to date as school sweethearts, and after marriage she worked as a music teacher in a state school in order to pay his graduate college fees. "I kept him," she recalls.

IMAGE NET

First Wives Club: Diane Keaton, Goldie Hawn and Bette Midler

"I was a wife with all that entails. I worked and then I had two daughters, becoming a full-time wife. Then I had a third career — I became a corporate wife. At home we would discuss issues, discuss his work. And when we went out to evening receptions I always felt I was not only representing Gary as his wife. I also felt that I was representing GE. As a corporate wife you are constantly open to scrutiny. You become used to a certain level of pressure."

Mr Wendt, 54, who in his business dealings is regarded as something of a financial wizard, offered his wife $10 million as a settlement but she refused. "I replied that it was not the price of the buyout," she says. She wants $50 million. Mr Wendt claims that his wife was "not repsonsible" for his success. "This is about who created and preserved the assets," he said.

Alton Abramowitz, head of the New York chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, agrees that the "corporate wife" is a new force to be reckoned with. She is militant and, having normally listened to the endless work-talk and late-night deal-making that is expected of the modern corporate husband, she knows the lingo.

In former decades a canny husband could probably still hope to conceal financial secrets from his wife. There was the tendency to wave such things aside as being too difficult for the dear girls to understand. But Lorna Wendt learnt to decipher the argot of international deals, investments and stockholdings. She also knew how to hire a good attorney.

> 'We'll be seeing more and more of these cases'

"We'll be seeing more and more of these cases," Mr Abramowitz says. "People's expectations have become so great, and the women's movement has made wives very determined." The recent ballooning of salaries at the top end of corporate America was also to blame. "It is Monopoly money," sighs Mr Abramowitz. Other lawyers are not so troubled. Dan Couvrette, publisher of *Divorce* magazine, predicts: "This case will lead to an increase in pre-nuptial agreements and will therefore create more work for attorneys. But if it forces people to be more honest about the extent of their relationships, that could be a good thing."

Toni Goodale, a Manhattan divorce counsellor, argues: "Some women have devoted their lives to furthering their husband's career. Of course she should get half." A more typical reaction is that of John Gutfreund, the former emperor of Salomon Brothers. "A woman who worked hard is entitled to a fair split," he said, "but I don't know if it is 50-50."

The militancy of corporate wives was recently given a shot in the arm by the hit film *First Wives Club* which celebrated divorce oneup-womanship. Women who are deserted by their husbands now fancy themselves as the film's stars, Diane Keaton, Bette Midler and Goldie Hawn. The movie took Ivana Trump as its inspiration, but she was too unusual a commodity to be a genuine "corporate wife".

Supporters of Mr Wendt argue that corporate wives have it easy: mornings spent in the boudoir, afternoons at the healthclub, and evenings on the charity ball circuit. Manhattan's Upper East side is full of them, which explains the nervousness the Wendt case has created in New York.

Lorna Wendt says that it is the "principle" of the thing. "Any dissolution of marriage is sad but I am bearing up and what he was offering me was not fair. This is not about need. I can get along on $10 million but why should he get $90 million? I entered into this marriage as a partner. I don't know when he decided that it was not a partnership. He's not the man I married or loved. I stopped loving him when he announced that he wanted a divorce. It came as a thunderbolt."

Sally Oldham, one of her lawyers, notes that Mr Wendt had been "ungenerous in his recollections of the marriage — he doesn't have the generosity to say that Lorna was a good wife and a good mother". Would Lorna Wendt have persisted with the case if her husband had declared to the court that he appreciated the good years that they had lived together, had loved her, had cherished her? When asked this question, she pauses, gives a sigh, and agrees softly: "Absolutely." So, he stands to lose $40 million simply because he would not say "I loved you".

If she wins, Mrs Wendt claims that she will put some of the money into helping other corporate wives. "I foresee becoming an advocate for women's rights, yes. Women of my age felt that our career was our husband's career." *Wendt v Wendt* is expected to draw to an end in a few days, and then, after a short delay, will come the verdict. Until that day, whatever happens to the Dow Jones, Wall Street is going to be a jumpy place.

Lorna and Gary Wendt: they met at school, and after marriage, she worked to pay his college fees

Style Editor Grace Bradberry on how to wear an asymmetrical top

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Joe Joseph on the writer who offers hope to those who think they have a great book inside them

I think I feel a novel coming on

Fancy becoming a best-selling novelist and reaping the fruits of literary glory, including royalty cheques, appearances on *Oprah*, and envy-induced ulcers triggered by seeing the size of John Grisham's next advance? Of course you do.

A spooky number of lawyers, models, cabbies and journalists are convinced that they have a great novel inside them, which in most cases would be true only if they had just taken a copy of *Brighton Rock* down from their bookshelves and eaten the whole thing page by page.

Maria Barrett was once a yearner, too. Then eight years ago, while working in the City, she began scribbling at her desk. Bingo! It turned out to be a synopsis. A publisher encouraged her to stick at it, hinted that learning to spell probably wouldn't be a big drawback, but advised Barrett against giving up her day job. Next day Maria gave up her day job. Now, at 33, she has five novels behind her and she's making biggish money. So how hard can writing a novel be?

Basically: less hard than solving Fermat's Last Theorem, but trickier than people imagine — even people who have read a whole Jeffrey Archer novel. What we need are a few tips about how to get beyond the Greene wannabe stage.

In her book, *Bestseller: Secrets of Successful Writing*, the novelist Celia Brayfield offers this advice: "The stories that bestsellers tell are superficially about fictional characters, invented places and fantastic scenarios, but in fact are about ordinary life. They actually address the hopes and fears of the human race.

"Behind the dinosaurs, *Jurassic Park* expresses our fear of offending natural order. John Grisham's stories are our dragon-slaying sagas — the dragon being institutionalised corruption."

So if you wake up one morning with a strong urge to "address the hopes and fears of the human race," then the chances are you might have the germ of a novel inside you.

But if addressing the hopes and fears of the human race doesn't come naturally to you, don't panic. Because as far as literary motivation goes, boredom can do the trick just as well. Ask Maria Barrett.

Barrett, whose fifth novel, *Intimate Lies*, was published recently, now has about a quarter of a million books in print.

But she started writing her first novel — a rags-to-riches revenge novel called *Elle*, because she was twiddling her thumbs in a financial PR office in 1989. Barrett had time on her hands and an underemployed secretary who could type out her first stabs at literature. And stabs they turned out to be.

"It was a mishmash. It was just a storyline, with lots of really bad prose thrown in."

At this point Barrett had the huge good fortune to cross the path of Philippa Harrison — now chief executive of the publisher Little, Brown, but then taking a break from the publishing industry. A friend of Barrett's had passed the synopsis to Harrison, who saw something worth getting enthusiastic about. "I could see that she'd got something. I was swept away by her heroine."

The spelling was shaky, and there were quite a few structural problems. But what impressed Harrison was how Barrett could spit out fresh, alternative plot ideas off the top of her head.

Barrett handed in her notice immediately and started rewriting. "I rewrote it three times," she recalls now, "from beginning to end. And each time Philippa would look it over and there would be more problems. The main problem was the prose. The story seemed to be fairly strong."

Harrison acknowledges that it was "a very unusual apprenticeship". Publishers rarely have time to nurse a new author through three drafts. Barrett wonders how she would have managed without Harrison's confidence as a buttress.

By this stage, a twist in Harrison's career brought her into the driving seat of Little, Brown, where the manuscript of *Elle* was picked up by a senior editor without any knowledge of Harrison's past involvement in it. Little, Brown "pushed it like hell", printing 80,000 copies, straight into paperback. *Elle* made *The Sunday Times*'s bestseller list.

Each novel since has outsold the previous one. When it's time for the next, she submits four storylines to Little, Brown, She and her editor select one and she begins her research — in the case of *Intimate Lies*, about how easy it might be to be a bigamist.

Harrison says: "Maria is very serious about what she does, which was one of the reasons I knew she was going to make it. *Elle* works because Maria absolutely believed in the characters she was writing about — authenticity is the single most important thing; the second reason is that she can write, and most amateur novelists can't. You can't teach anyone to write."

Any other tips before we scrawl "Chapter One" in our notebooks?

Harrison says: "Don't patronise is the only tip I have. And don't think it's easy."

● *Intimate Lies is published by Little, Brown (£16.99).*

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Break the Bundesbank — or bust

Germans must cut costs or devalue, says **Anatole Kaletsky**

Is Germany destined to become the economic sick man of Europe? To ask such a question is to invite derision. Germany is still invariably described by the conventional wisdom as "the economic powerhouse of Europe". But Germany's unemployment is back to levels last seen in the 1930s. Its economy has all but stopped growing. Even the legendary German export industries are living on borrowed time: selling as much as they can from existing factories that would never be built with today's cost structure, while they work feverishly to move their production abroad.

Yet there is nothing inevitable about Germany's economic decline. The trend in Germany's unemployment could be quickly reversed and the country could resume rapid economic growth. To do this, however, the Germans would have to make some bold choices.

The advice commonly offered to the Germans is to abandon their "Rhenish" social-market model and move to an American free-market economy, with low taxes, weak trade unions, deregulation and minimal welfare suport for the poor and the jobless. But what if the Germans are unwilling to embrace these reforms? What if they insist on sticking to the socio-economic system that has given them 50 years of prosperity, stability and peace? Is Germany then condemned to perpetual mass unemployment and steady decline?

Not necessarily. There is another option, but it is one that no German politician or economist dare discuss. That option is to undertake a massive devaluation of the mark to bring German costs into line with those of other countries even without any dramatic social reforms.

Conceptually, this is quite simple. In 1995, hourly labour costs in western Germany were 180 per cent of those in America, and 156 per cent of those in France. In order to restore its international competitiveness, German industry could proceed in one of three ways. It could reduce wages by 30 per cent or more. It could eliminate most employment taxes and abolish its social safety net. Or it could eschew all social reforms and simply devalue its currency.

To bring German costs down to the American level would require a 45 per cent devaluation of the mark from its 1995 level, or 35 per cent from its rather lower level today.

Is such an easy escape from the German dilemma really conceivable? Certainly. The whole point of an independent currency is that it allows a nation to trade freely with the rest of the world while making its own choices about the way it wants to organise its economy and social system.

Experience shows that very steep devaluations of major currencies are not only possible but quite common. In the past two years, for example, the yen has fallen 35 per cent against the dollar, while the dollar fell by more than 50 per cent against the mark, the yen and the pound between 1985 and 1989. Experience also shows that dramatic changes in currency levels need not threaten price stability, although they are bound to produce a one-off increase in imported inflation. What, then, would be the drawbacks for Germany of choosing a policy of devaluation to make its industry internationally competitive again?

I can think of only three. First, there are many experts who believe that Germany *ought to* abandon or modify the Rhenish model — and that the unemployment crisis produced by an overvalued currency is a way of forcing change. Secondly, a devaluation would lower the living standards of German workers and consumers, especially when they go on holiday or buy foreign goods. To reduce real wages is, indeed, the very purpose of devaluation, and this tends to be unpopular.

Thirdly, and I think most importantly, there is the question of inflated egos and institutional pride. To admit that Germany's economic crisis could now be solved by devaluing the mark would imply that the crisis was partly caused by the monetary misjudgments of the Bundesbank. This is obviously true, but I know of no German who is willing to say so in public. The Bundesbank, which is legally independent of politicians, could resist a demand for devaluation, even if this were the clearly expressed policy of the Government. In theory, therefore, an all-out policy of devaluation and monetary expansion might even require a vote of the German parliament to change the Bundesbank law, although in practice the Bundesbank is a politically sensitive institution that rarely defies what it sees as the democratic will.

> No German dares to criticise the central bankers

So the real issue is not the legal status of the Bundesbank or the feasibility of doing a deal with Germany's G7 partners to manage a devaluation of the mark. The real issue is the German people's unwillingness to face the problem.

Germans can keep their social safety net, its regulations and its high taxes, but only if they are prepared to accept lower living standards and a much weaker mark. Or they can keep their strong mark and their high wages, but only if they dismantle their social model.

What Germans cannot have is the world's strongest currency, the world's highest living standards and the world's most generous level of social protection, all at the same time. To put it another way, the Germans will have to slaughter some of their sacred cows to pull out of their present economic morass. But whether they choose to destroy their social safety net, emasculate their trade unions or humiliate the Bundesbank is up to them.

Brassy but not bold

Chris Morris can be funny, but his latest show is a vicious con-trick

Libby Purves

Shrove Tuesday today: *carne vale*, a day for wild jokes and masked misbehaviour, licensed feasting and foolery before the austerities of Lent. I have just, for the first time, spent carnival weekend in Venice wandering around in a cloak and mask with all the other bemused tourists, dodging fantastic harlequins and facepaint artists and colliding in dim alleys with a succession of vast rococo hats above white, impassive cardboard faces. Forget pancakes: they do these things best in Roman Catholic countries. Even better, the framework of a religious tradition contains the convention that it all stops on Ash Wednesday and bare sober faces come penitent to church.

Back in our world, of course, frolics and licence and lampoon and cruelty continue all year round, made stale by repetition. So nothing could be more appropriate than to come back to an escalating row, stretching from a question in Parliament to an irate Claire Rayner, about the *Brass Eye* comedy programme on Channel 4. This opens many avenues for Lenten meditation on the uses of comedy and of lies, and the wavering line between malicious deception and cathartic masquerade. Every civilisation has expended energy trying to draw that line. We should, too.

For newcomers to the row, a resumé. Chris Morris is a youngish comedian of some brilliance, discovered in the Radio 4 spoof news programme, *On the Hour*. He played the threatening interrogator and snarling anchorman who intones, in perfect parody of the most contemptuous, self-important newsshows, such lines as "That's the news — I'm Chris Morris — You're not!" and "Those are the headlines. Happy now?"

The show transferred to BBC television as *The Day Today*, and delivered salutary send-ups of the confrontational, sensational, soundbite triteness which perpetually threatens broadcast news. The programmes, together with Steve Coogan's *Knowing Me Knowing You* from the same stable, have done for contemporary broadcasting what the Pythons' "Alan Whicker Island" and horrible game show hosts did in the 1970s; and what Victoria Wood's lampoons of sofa-TV and Stephen Fry's spoof consumer shows did in the 1980s. Each in turn has forced the medium reluctantly to admit its own awful mannerisms.

Morris belongs to a group of gifted young comics — Coogan, Patrick Marber, Rebecca Front — who have done the same for the 1990s (usually under the direction of Armando Ianucci). It is a good deed, not only because it amuses the public, but because it makes broadcasters squirm. As a talk show presenter I listen to Coogan's Alan Partridge quite often, and never fail to notice when I start to fall into his dreadful ways. If they are honest, TV news presenters do the same with Chris Morris. So don't write him off as another cheeky young squib; he has done the state some service and they know it.

However, with *Brass Eye* he goes further. After being removed from Radio 1 for assorted tasteless stunts such as announcing Michael Heseltine's death, he and his cohorts composed a show for the more freewheeling Channel 4. Even so, Michael Grade postponed it once.

What the show does is make up a news story and get real personages to comment on it. Thus animal welfarists such as Carla Lane are interviewed by Mr Morris in a false moustache under a false name, and persuaded to back a campaign over an imaginary elephant that died after sticking its trunk up its back end, and to condemn equally imaginary "weasel fighting in the East End". A Tory MP, David Amess, is persuaded to submit a parliamentary question about a wholly imaginary drug known as "Cake"; Noel Edmonds makes a televised appeal about it, and so does Bernard Manning. Figures such as Sir Bernard Ingham and Sir Peregrine Worsthorne are wooed to appear on a show calling itself "The Main Agenda", and asked vaguely nonsensical questions about animal experimentation or drugs.

They answer courteously enough. After all, since the dizzy expansion of radio and television channels it is a commonplace of public life to be asked stupid questions in makeshift studios by unknown presenters who appear to be off their heads. Even a humble columnist gets six calls a week saying "This is the Nikki-Jo Fandangle Show on BXVD FM, we want you to join a discussion on incest. If not, would you mind just telling us your favourite breed of dog, for a survey we're doing to raise money for our Sick Animal Appeal?"

Chris Morris's unwitting victims think they are doing something like this: vaguely useful, slightly half-baked but no worse than a lot of broadcasting. They know better only when they see themselves looking ridiculous months later on the comedy show. Granted, the target is not so much their beliefs — although you are invited to snigger at their gullibility — as the monster of television itself, or as one friendly commentator put it, "the media's obsession with itself, and celebrities' obsession with the media".

So is this good, robust satire? Comedy and deception have always gone together: a jester in a mask reveals himself to be the wrong sex: the man in Chaucer's Miller's Tale puts his backside out of the window to be kissed by the seducer and breaks wind in his face; *Private Eye* puts a wicked speech balloon onto a real photograph; video trickery makes the Pope dance to the Spice Girls; judicious cuts make Harry Enfield's hideous Tory Boy appear to be applauded by the party conference. We need to laugh at the famous and powerful, and prick one another's pretensions. Why not?

In this case there are some cogent reasons why not. The trouble is that because these people are being duped, *Brass Eye* is less funny than vicious, less crusading than cowardly. Like other jokers of the past few years (remember the Henry Root letters, or the Canadian smart-arse who telephoned the Queen on radio?), it kicks unsuspecting people in the teeth and punishes not wrongdoing but trustingness. It is a nasty little boy without much imagination, who rings the doorbell and runs away. It erodes general trust: as Claire Rayner puts it, "Because of this series, fewer and fewer honest people who speak on TV out of conviction will agree to do so in future."

Well, let's play the devil's advocate here: given the standard of a lot of media rent-a-quotery you could argue that this might not be altogether a bad thing. Yet there is something else, more to do with art than with morals, which troubles me about it.

The problem with this kind of comedy is that it lacks art, and craft. If you mimic and parody figures and types — as in the work of *Spitting Image*, Rory Bremner, Victoria Wood, and the brilliant newer team of Coogan, Front, Marber, Ianucci and the rest — what you do is true comic art. Chris Morris can achieve this too, beautifully, when curbed and guided by a proper producer.

This kind of comic art, of studied (even if vicious) parody, can convey far more truth about — say — the absurd world of soundbite celebrity than you ever can by merely entrapping real ones. When Rebecca Front wickedly lampoons a fashion designer's pretensions on *Knowing Me Knowing You*, she does more to deflate them than you ever could by tricking the real Vivienne Westwood (which would only make the audience uneasy, and sorry for her, and distract us entirely from the joke). When John Bird and John Fortune conduct their interviews as captains of industry and politicians, they achieve an essential distillation of the awfulness of both. It is difficult and admirable work.

The *Brass Eye* trickery does not display such skill; nor much thought, artistry or effort. If there is a parallel, it is with the idle self-important decadence of "artists" who deal only in *objets trouvés*, plaster casts of dead bodies, excreta or cut-up cows. This art cannot last and is not nourishing. Comedy is art too. Those who push back frontiers are those who deploy most skill: Dali not Damien Hirst, Fluck and Law not Jeremy Beadle. Far from defusing pretension, *Brass Eye* buys the most pretentious and empty of all voguish theories: that all you need do is think up a good wheeze and there is no need to draw or sculpt — or in this case, act and script. For which reason it won't last long; so perhaps we need not worry.

Proconsul Dorrell slips up

Scots Tories don't need him, says **Magnus Linklater**

God protect me from my friends, Michael Forsyth must have muttered yesterday as he paced the corridors of the Scottish Office. As for Stephen Dorrell, he probably felt a bit like Rodney in *Only Fools and Horses*, blowing apart one of Del Boy's better schemes by inconveniently sticking to the script: "What'd I say?" he may well be asking. "What'd I do wrong?"

What the Health Secretary had done wrong was to fall into one of those classic mantraps which so many Westminster politicians fail to spot when they blunder into the Scottish jungle. Questioned in *The Scotsman* about his views about a future Scottish parliament, Mr Dorrell pointed out the anomalies it would create. There was the famous West Lothian question, he said. How could any arrangement be justified which gave Scottish MPs the right to debate English matters in the House of Commons, when English MPs would have no equivalent right to discuss Scottish matters? *The Scotsman* put the obvious follow-up question: would the Tories, then, get rid of a Scottish parliament? "Yes, absolutely," was Mr Dorrell's reported reply.

True, he has now backtracked, claiming only that his party might wish to change the arrangement, not abolish it altogether. But the damage has been done. What came across was a whiff of the post-colonialism that so many Scots still detect within the Tory party when it comes to Scottish matters. It was a bit like Lord Curzon dictating the partition of Bengal and loftily dismissing the ensuing outcry as mere "rhetoric and declamation". It ran directly counter to the current Tory line in Scotland.

Alex Salmond, the leader of the Scottish National Party, said that it proved that devolution simply meant giving Scotland "a dog-licence from Westminster", and Labour, which has been struggling under the sustained onslaught of Mr Forsyth and his gibes about a "tartan tax", leapt on it as "a monumental gaffe".

But Mr Dorrell, you may say, was only rehearsing the West Lothian question, which has never been satisfactorily answered. He pointed out that a Scottish parliament would undermine the Union, and went on to argue that there would be no logic in carrying on with a constitutional reform that does not work. Ergo, it should be abolished — well, changed.

But logic is not always the handiest weapon for a politician. What Mr Dorrell ignored was the inconvenience of democracy: if a Scottish parliament is voted in under Labour, it will be as a result of a referendum, something the Tories are rather keen on themselves when it comes to Europe; he made no reference to that.

Nor did he seem to appreciate all the Scottish Secretary's careful work in the past few months. Mr Forsyth has been trying to emphasise the Scottishness of the party rather than its Britishness. His references to the term "Britain" these days are few and far between. Instead, he claims the Scottish patriot William Wallace as a Tory hero, he returns the Stone of Destiny to its rightful home, he quotes the 14th-century Declaration of Arbroath to proclaim his pride in Scottish nationhood. More to the point, when pressed on the issue of a Scottish parliament, he says that "of course" the Conservatives would field candidates for it. "We would argue our corner," he told Radio Scotland recently, "and if a parliament has the endorsement of the Scottish people, we are not going to abolish it."

That is the sensible and pragmatic answer. Indeed, it may well be the only way back for a party that once commanded a majority in Scotland but which currently languishes at less than 19 per cent. Ironically, Labour's agreement to a system of proportional representation for a Scottish parliament actually gives the Tories a claim to a healthy number of seats. Then, if things go wrong for Labour — and bedding in a new parliament is unlikely to be straightforward — they stand to gain. Privately, some senior Tories concede that devolution offers them the best chance on offer of making a serious comeback.

All of which makes Stephen Dorrell's intervention somewhat inconvenient for his Scottish colleagues. The West Lothian question no longer excites much comment in Scotland; it has been placed on a dusty shelf. Even Tam Dalyell, the Labour MP who asked it, has agreed to leave it alone for the time being. Labour's standard response is that it is no worse an anomaly than the one that gave Scotland unpopular legislation like the poll tax or opt-out schools.

The general view is that under a Labour government there will be no immediate reduction of Scottish MPs at Westminster. Numbers may well have to come down eventually, but meanwhile there are more important things to worry about.

All in all, there may be grounds for reconsidering Mr Dorrell's suitability as the principal Tory spokesman on constitutional matters. Mr Dorrell himself may care to reflect on another of Lord Curzon's airy comments: the Tories, he said, "can govern and make war and increase taxation and expenditure *à merveille*, but legislation is not their province in a democratic constitution".

Funny fellow

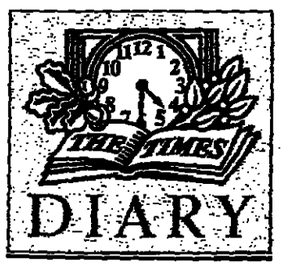
WHAT IS happening to the Prince of Wales? For the first time, he has lent his name to a fellowship at Oxford. But it has nothing to do with his artistic or architectural interests. Instead he has given consent to the establishment of the Prince of Wales Fellowship for the study of the Islamic world.

Oxford's Centre for Islamic Studies, of which the Prince is a patron, claimed yesterday that the fellowship would help to promote understanding between the West and Islam. But as the potential future head of the Church of England, the heir to the throne once again risks controversy by linking his name so publicly to the Islamic faith.

Dr David Browning, registrar at Oxford's Centre for Islamic Studies, denies that the fellowship is contentious. "Everything that the Prince of Wales has said has been simply to encourage us to learn more about each other and each other's religions," he said.

In his gruesome television interview with Jonathan Dimbleby, the Prince upset churchmen when he said he would like to be seen as "defender of faith", rather than "Defender of the Faith". Since 1993 he has given a series of controversial, pro-Islam speeches. Persistent rumours that the Prince is on the verge of conversion, however, have been dismissed by Buckingham Palace as rubbish.

Sponsor of the Islamic way



Paper tigress

AFTER some prevarication, Amanda Platell, the acting editor of the *Sunday Mirror*, is said to have left the newspaper. "She cleared her stuff out of her office this morning," says a colleague.

The *Mirror*'s management has long denied any difficulty, and managed only a measly "no comment" yesterday. But Platell's relationship with the managing director, Bridget Rowe, has never been less than turbulent. I understand that she told her waxen-faced boss, David Montgomery, that she was disappearing for two weeks, and demanded an even grander post in the Mirror Group empire on her return.

● *A reader travelling from Paris to Heathrow with British Airways over the weekend was presented with a slice of Christmas cake. It came in a plastic wrapping decorated with pictures of holly and wishing the eater "Season's Greetings" in red and white lettering. He asked the stewardess the meaning of Christmas cake in February. "Well, it's early or late," she said, "depending how you see it."*

Barking art

NOT SINCE Laika the dog was sent into space by the Russians have the boundaries of canine endeavour been pushed back to such acclaim. Kali, a yellow labrador, has opened her first art exhibition at a gallery in Shoreditch, London. Her sculptures cost up to £500.

Using a variety of raw materials, she has moulded pieces which her owner Anthony Rendall believes will sell like hot buns: "We have brought eight pieces together for her first public viewing." My picture shows Kali with an untitled composition for the show.

Fetch, chew, good boy

Jail bird

PRISONERS should not be disturbed if a small dark bundle whizzes past their cells, closely followed by a large crucifix. This will be Ann Widdecombe, the all-action Home Office Minister, who has set herself the task of visiting every prison in the country before the general election.

So far she has seen 117, and she has another 18 to go. At her best, Miss Widdecombe can hit three prisons in a day. But she only visits on a Friday, so it would be a courtesy if the Prime Minister could hold on for a May election.

Acting up

ACTING has been no tea-dance for Viviana Durante, one of Covent Garden's leading ballerinas. She took the 1996-97 season off to pursue a straight acting career and managed to bag a part in Wycherley's romp *The Country Wife* at the Citizens Theatre in Glasgow.

Halfway through rehearsals, however, she and the company have separated. Tutus and tulle, it was decided, were always going to rank above thespian bellowing for Miss D. Luckily, Covent Garden has reserved a place for her next season.

Viviana, dancing on

P·H·S

OLD PARTY CARD

Stamped with a Downing Street menu of beer and sandwiches

Under Tony Blair, Labour's thinking about the public sector has undergone considerable change. The party that once sided emphatically with the producer unions now accepts that consumers must come first — and that market techniques have real merit if they result in the more effective delivery of health, education and other government-funded services. It has largely convinced the public that this transformation is genuine; but the Shadow Cabinet is rightly apprehensive that, after 18 years of Labour invective against "Tory cuts", many of the nation's health workers, civil servants, postmen and dustmen still expect Christmas to arrive the day after any Labour victory.

The solution announced this week by Peter Hain, Labour's shadow employment minister, is to introduce job security agreements across the public sector. In terms of electoral politics, the plan may seem a neat way of signalling that Labour will indeed treat its highly unionised workforce more kindly than the Tories, while simultaneously reassuring the public that it can fend off a mudslide of pent-up claims for "catch-up" pay deals. The idea is that if the unions are convinced that public sector jobs will be safe with Labour, they will show restraint about pay and be readier to innovate. Voters should take a very long spoon to this soup.

For the public sector, Mr Hain's policy would be a millstone. If Labour wins and makes job security the linchpin of its new "social partnership", it will restore union power, inhibit further privatisation and contracting-out of services and, above all, revive the culture that has made public sector unions so resistant to change. Mr Hain says that "the Conservative legacy of public sector service cuts and job losses cannot be reversed overnight". Does that mean that given time, they will indeed be reversed?

For the private sector, Labour's enthusiasm for job security deals would spell economic disaster. It not only takes risks with the economic cycle; in the job-creating new technology sectors, the freedom of companies to adjust the mix of skills in their workforces is a matter of life or bankruptcy. Yet Mr Hain, convinced that job insecurity obsesses the electorate, has declared war on the evils of the "deregulated, hire-and-fire labour market". He appears to have the backing of Gordon Brown, who has called job insecurity "the dominant feature of British economic life".

The Social Market Foundation has just published research by David Smith that demonstrates, to the contrary, that job insecurity is less of a problem in Britain than it is in countries wedded to "social partnership" models of industrial relations. Even among part-timers, most Britons in work are covered by employment protection; most of those working part-time do so by choice; and the proportion of people on temporary contracts is lower in Britain than in France, Germany or virtually any other industrialised country. Contrary to popular belief, people stay in the same job for nearly as long as they did 20 years ago. Since high job turnover is characteristic of an economy adjusting nimbly to new technology and markets, Britain's labour market is probably still not flexible enough.

Mr Hain seems enthusiastic for the German social market model whose regulations and nonwage perks have brought Germany its horrifying dole queues. Last month on the page opposite, he asserted that "partnership between employers and unions is the only effective passport to a highly skilled society". This is old Labour at work, distrustful of free markets and the causes of free markets — a party card, stamped with the minimum wage, the social chapter and a full Downing Street menu of beer and sandwiches. If this is not what Mr Blair and Mr Brown want, they should say so.

DORRELL DROWNING

The dangers of a minister loose in Scotland

Stephen Dorrell was out of his depth when he indicated in a *Scotsman* interview that a future Tory government would reverse the creation of an Edinburgh assembly by a future Labour government. The Health Secretary was not so much waving the flag as drowning in detail. His intervention underestimates the practical difficulties of abolishing a Scottish parliament; it also undermines one of his party's most powerful arguments against Labour's devolution plans, that a vote for Labour would be a vote for an irreversible shift, one that, at worst, would cause the break-up of the United Kingdom.

There is a clear demand among Scots for greater autonomy, which finds its easiest expression in the call for an assembly. Labour, sensitive to electoral pressures from the Scottish National Party, has sought to assuage that appetite with its plans for a tax-raising Scottish parliament, introduced after a referendum and elected by PR. Many supporters of Labour's scheme believe it will satisfy Scottish demands for special treatment and thus rebind the Union.

The plans as framed, however, seem likely not to strengthen the Union but introduce debilitating decay. It would be better to seek other mechanisms to satisfy Scottish aspirations. The Scottish Secretary, Michael Forsyth, wiser than Mr Dorrell in this and many other regards, is right to give warning of the dangers of paying danegeld to separatists.

The Scottish parliament that Labour envisages would be introduced after a referendum in which the Scottish people had been asked first if they approved in principle of an assembly, and secondly, if it should have tax-raising powers. The vote would be held before any Bill was introduced. The Scots would be invited not so much to buy a pig in a poke as make an investment more speculative than the South Sea Bubble. Labour has long argued that an assembly without tax powers could not work, yet that is what it might have to legislate for after a referendum if the Scots vote yes to an assembly, but no to having to pay for it. Any devolution Bill might then be amended by the Commons, giving the Scots a body which they neither voted for nor were promised.

If Labour did, nevertheless, succeed in establishing its planned parliament that would not be the end of the matter. Scottish Labour MPs at Westminster would be deciding English education policy while Westminster was powerless to influence matters in Scotland. In Edinburgh, with the parliament capable of raising income tax by only three pence in the pound, the nationalists would argue that this limit prevented the satisfaction of every Scottish grievance.

Under a PR system, nationalists, in alliance with others on the Left, could press for more powers from Westminster. Labour ministers would be ill-placed to deny them. Every Scottish Labour MP, with the honourable exception of Tam Dalyell, has signed the *Claim of Right* for Scotland which holds that sovereignty rests with the Scottish people, not Westminster. According to its logic, demands for more powers by Gordon Brown's constituents could not be denied by Tony Blair.

If ever Mr Dorrell were Prime Minister, he might fancy that Westminster could not only deny an Edinburgh parliament more powers but deprive it of those it had. He would, however, face a body whose members' status depended on the UK being weakened as a nation state. They would be supported by federalist allies in Europe. It would be far better to stop the slide now, rather than promising to push the boulder back up the hill.

THE FRENCH FRONT

Maastricht makes fertile ground for the far Right

The march has been long, but France's National Front is arriving at its destination: a solid presence on the lower rungs of the nation's political ladder. With Catherine Mègret's victory at the weekend in Vitrolles, the Front won control of its fourth large town on the Mediterranean coast. A party whose roots lie in the half-forgotten resentments of French colonists dispossessed by de Gaulle's retreat from Algeria has now become a factor in coalition calculations the length and breadth of France: Front members sit on 21 out of 22 regional councils. A party which preaches racial discrimination, tolerates racial abuse and whose followers are sometimes violent has climbed from 0.74 per cent of the national vote in the presidential election of 1974 to a steady 15 percent or more.

The Front once seemed extreme; today it no longer worries voters. Like the far Right Freedom Party of Jörg Haider in Austria, the French Front's candidates are younger, smarter and more photogenic. A decade ago, the Front won 35 seats in the French Parliament, but lost them all when the proportional representation system from which the party had benefited was cancelled. The Front diversified beyond its leader, Jean-Marie Le Pen, and his improbable bids for the presidency. It began recruiting among police and criminal justice staff. National Front soup kitchens for the homeless sprang up. A slow and effective drive for seats in municipal and regional authorities began.

But the Front's success was not achieved merely by swapping leather jackets for suits. Its issues have turned from the margins to mainstream. Depending on individual inclination and local circumstance, a vote for the Front is a protest registered against unemployment, political corruption, cosy conspiracy between the major parties, "immigrants" (often French citizens of North African descent), the global economy and crime. In a country in which the official jobless rate for men and women under the age of 25 touches 30 per cent, the Front's policies find a ready echo.

Its actual prescriptions are a mishmash of Gallic hostility to free trade, compulsory repatriation of immigrants and tax reduction reminiscent of the Poujadists. Newly acquired local power has been used to nasty effect against ethnic minorities. The Mayor of Toulon withdrew a literary award to a Jewish writer. Books with titles such as *Should We Burn the Arabs of France?* are on sale in the town.

The Maastricht treaty forced a deficit-reduction programme before the country had begun to liberalise its labour market. The Parisian elite was content to leave the French young and poor to stand for years in dole queues where hatreds easily bred. All politicians in France must now deal with the result.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Trade in the arts 'mired in fraud'

From Professor David Lowenthal

Sir, "The most striking thing to a lawyer who comes upon the art world", declared Paul Bator in his *The International Trade in Art* (University of Chicago Press, 1982), "is how deep and uncritical is the assumption that transactions within it should usually be — are certainly *entitled* to be — secret".

Mr Bator found the art and antiquities trade mired in fraud and deception, for the acceptance of secrecy "made persons aspiring to the highest standards of personal probity accomplices in the acquisition of looted masterpieces". To dream of curing such corruption is futile.

Tighten up the art trade's code of practice, say antique dealers. This is hypocrisy: these non-binding regulations are only window-dressing when concealment benefits buyers and sellers alike. Sotheby's, along with the London art market, will survive, despite the "silence and secrecy" which your leader today deplores (also letters, February 8).

Your leader of the previous day refers to "earlier and less scrupulous ages" when artworks and antiquities were acquired by shady means unknown to modern inheritors. Less scrupulous ages? To presume progress in probity flatters a present in which Mayan temple façades are ripped off to order, armed robbers dynamite Angkor Wat, the fame of Cycladian figurines has led to the devastation of Dodecanese grave sites, and European States insist that artworks which Nazis took from Jews are their "national" heritage.

Victims' laments are, to be sure, nowadays heeded in Unesco conventions and in the self-denying purchase policies of major museums. But inflated prices and huge profits in the antiquities and art markets both attest and foment the abuses exposed in the Sotheby's sting.

Until avarice is abolished, spare us such pieties as those of the Secretary-General of the British Antique Dealers' Association, who calls the market "relatively clean and well run" (report, February 7), and of the self-righteous who censure Italy's refusal to export its heritage or England's ready receipt of stolen goods.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID LOWENTHAL
(Author, *The Heritage Crusade and the Spoils of History*).
56 Crown Street,
Harrow on the Hill, Middlesex.
February 8.

TV 'stings'

From Mr John Stonborough

Sir, Sotheby's is merely the latest of a growing number of organisations to find themselves exposed through the use of miniaturised video-recording equipment secretly carried by a journalist.

Surprisingly neither the BBC producers' guidelines nor the Independent Television Commission's programme code deal with the issue of TV journalists setting up and filming "sting" operations.

The BBC permits the use of secret cameras on private property where there is "*prima-facie* evidence of crime or significant antisocial behaviour". In addition, programme-makers must convince their employer that the material is "necessary". "Fishing expeditions" (ie, looking for evidence of criminality or antisocial behaviour) are expressly forbidden.

Journalists working under the ITC code merely have to show a public-interest justification and the need for secret filming to establish credibility of a story, whether on public or private property. This seems to mean that people engaged in commercial, religious or political activities might find themselves pressured into wrongdoing and then star on prime-time television.

With the advent of these spy cameras the opportunity for abuse is becoming too great. Their use, combined with the role of journalist as bait, is in urgent need of review, either through self-regulation or statute.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN STONBOROUGH,
John Stonborough & Co
(Media relations counsel),
7 Hertford Street, W1.

Adventurous Digbys

From Mrs Jane Donaldson

Sir, Reading your obituary of Pamela Harriman, née Digby (February 6), I was struck by the uncanny similarity of her life and character to that of her 19th-century forebear Jane Digby, the "infamous" Lady Ellenborough.

Both started life at the Digby family home at Minterne Magna in Dorset, each had several husbands — Pamela three, Jane four — and many turbulent and not always happy relationships, yet both ended their lives in circumstances of considerable political influence, Jane — after many Continental and Middle Eastern adventures — having settled in Damascus, happily married for nearly thirty years to a Beduin chief, Sheikh Medjuel el Mazrab, sharing his leadership and the respect of his tribe and playing a diplomatic role between the Christian and Arab communities.

Yours truly,
JANE DONALDSON,
Catmint Cottage,
Hinton St George, Somerset.

Judiciary and mandatory sentences

From Mr Ian Cook

Sir, In stating that the courts are bound to disqualify a driver who is found to have an excess alcohol level for 12 months, "whatever the circumstances of the offence or the consequences to his livelihood", His Honour Joseph Dean (letter, February 3) seems to disregard Section 34(1) of the Road Traffic Offenders Act 1988.

That section provides that where a person is convicted of an offence involving obligatory disqualification the court must disqualify for not less than 12 months unless it is satisfied that there are "special reasons" for disqualifying for a shorter period or for not disqualifying at all.

Experience and decided cases show that "special reasons" are seldom found. Nevertheless, when Parliament enacted S34, it expressly reserved to sentencing judges and magistrates a discretion in order that anomalous and unjust sentences, such as are likely to arise under current proposals, may be avoided.

Yours faithfully,
IAN COOK,
1 King's Bench Walk, Temple, EC4.
February 4.

From Mr Robert Milsom

Sir, As Lord Donaldson of Lymington points out (letter, February 5), a licence to drive is a privilege granted by the State. It is not unjust for the State to prescribe in advance relevant bad behaviour which will lead to the withdrawal of that privilege. Personal freedom is a right belonging to everyone. It might be convenient, though I doubt it, to withdraw it regardless of an individual's circumstances and the circumstances of the particular offence; but it cannot be just.

There is no evidence for Judge Dean's assertion that trial court judges "too often" ignore Court of Appeal guidelines. They do not follow them slavishly but then the Court of Appeal does not intend them to do so.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT MILSOM,
Milsom and Lentin (solicitors),
69a Maids Causeway, Cambridge.
February 5.

From Mr Anthony Evans

Sir, Lord Donaldson of Lymington obfuscates a valid point made by Judge Dean.

Certainly, liberty is a right — but not when the rights of others are repeatedly denied. Justice demands that a repeating offender receives a heavier mandatory sentence than this offence would otherwise attract. Such a sentence should be awarded not only for the offence itself but also for having ignored previous warnings.

It appears to be only their Lordships who are confused on this matter. The public is clearly saying to repeating offenders: "We've had enough, stop now, or else ..." The judiciary should endorse that message.

Yours faithfully,
A. EVANS,
136 Crackley Bank,
Chesterton, Newcastle, Staffordshire.
February 5.

Bloody Sunday

From Mr Aidan O'Connor

Sir, It was with a sigh of despair that I read Mr Andrew Hunter's letter (February 3) concerning a proposed second inquiry into the Bloody Sunday tragedy.

He suggests that we should cease looking backward and rebuild into the future with all the outrages of the past left behind; at first glance a laudable enough aspiration, but his letter has the same flavour as those who opposed the reopening of the Birmingham Six and Guildford Four cases. The British Government and legal system did not suffer unduly when these cases were overturned; on the contrary, a sense of relief and satisfaction was widely expressed when justice was finally done.

On the question of Bloody Sunday, it is high time the British Government came clean on what has transpired to be a monumental example of injustice to the people of Derry and further afield. In offering advice to Mr John Hume, MP (in whose constituency the events took place and who was personally acquainted with many of the victims), Mr Hunter is seeking to deny the relentless quest for truth and justice. This will not abate until a satisfactory answer and apology are given.

To date, the British Government's position is unconvincing, to say the least. The Bloody Sunday issue is not some petulant sectarian squabble but, as the two MPs said in their letter today, a matter of deeply felt indignation, rooted in the Government's refusal to make a fresh examination of the facts.

Yours sincerely,
AIDAN O'CONNOR,
19 Orlagh Rise, Scholarstown Road,
Templeogue, Dublin 16.
February 5.

Teaching standards

From Viscount Caldecote, FEng

Sir, I read Anne Lee's article on education, "Could a charter be the way to raise standards?" (January 31), with great interest and encouragement.

A General Teaching Council, as advocated by some, might well be a step in the right direction but I doubt if it could be very effective in the absence of a chartered institution or college of teachers to which members would be elected in various grades after passing an examination or satisfying appropriate academic and experience qualifications.

Such an independent organisation, run by teachers, would provide a focus for excellence both in maintaining high standards of training and of professional conduct in its widest sense. As it developed teachers would come to aspire to membership, and that would bring with it higher morale of teachers and better public recognition of this most important profession.

Whether or not such an institution had a regulatory or licensing function, membership of it would certainly be taken into account in assessing teachers' qualifications.

So I very much hope that any future legislation on education will include powers enabling a chartered professional teachers' institution to be set up as soon as practicable.

Yours faithfully,
CALDECOTE,
House of Lords.
February 4.

Hay fever treatment

From Mr A. C. Eaton

Sir, Hoechst Marion Roussel's terfenadine (Triludan) has not been banned in America as your article on hay fever (Body and Mind, January 30) states. We are concerned that the report may unduly alarm the many British users.

What the US authorities have embarked upon is a consultation process that could, but may not, lead to the eventual withdrawal of the US licence in favour of a new treatment (fexofenadine, also from Hoechst Marion Roussel), which can also be taken with antibiotics or anti-fungal treatments.

This consultation process could take many months. Until the outcome is known Triludan remains fully available in the US as, when taken as recommended, there are no new safety concerns over its use.

This is also the view of the UK licensing authorities, as stated correctly in the article.

Yours faithfully,
A. C. EATON
(Director of Public Affairs),
Hoechst Marion Roussel Ltd,
Broadwater Park,
Denham, Uxbridge, Middlesex.
January 30.

Holocaust denial

From Mr Paul Phillips

Sir, Mr D. W. Bogle (letter, February 5) believes that it should never be illegal "to deny the actuality of any event". Although I am in agreement with this in general, the crucial difference in this case is that Holocaust deniers are vicious racists who espouse the myth that the Jews invented the Holocaust for their own ends, as well as denying the terrible suffering of millions.

This is not a question of dictating to people what is and is not the truth. Legislation already exists making incitement to racial hatred a criminal offence, and the criminalisation of Holocaust denial would be within that framework.

It is true that such crackpot views are held only by a tiny minority but, as time moves on and the Second World War fades from living memory, it is essential to maintain vigilance against anti-Semitism and racism in all forms.

Yours faithfully,
P. PHILLIPS,
Berkeley Square House,
Berkeley Square, W1.
February 5.

From Mr Martin Hasseck

Sir, Although I have an open mind as to whether it should be a criminal offence to deny that the Holocaust took place, I find it disturbing that your correspondent yesterday refers to "the ramblings of eccentrics and extremists" in this context.

Revisionism derives from a well-oiled machine, constructed by neo-Nazis, who believe that Nazism would be attractive if it could only rid itself of its unfortunate association with the death camps.

Your contributor ends his letter by saying that "anything is preferable to the emergence of thought-police and prosecutions for political heterodoxy". If the revisionists were successful we would be in precisely the state he fears.

Yours faithfully,
M. HASSECK,
104 Holders Hill Road, NW4.
February 6.

Business letters, page 29

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

The statistics of Sunday worship

From the Chairman of the Church of England Communications Committee

Sir, The latest Church of England attendance figures (reports, February 7 and 10) do look bad, and we must not be complacent about them. But these statistics tell nothing of the positive underlying trends to which clergy and parishioners all over the country testify.

There is plenty of anecdotal evidence of a switch from weekly attendance to less frequent, but just as regular, worship in our churches. Attendance once, twice or three times a month is becoming more common as the freedom to travel, the dispersal of family and friends around the country, and other Sunday pressures increase.

To put the figures into context, a drop of 36,000 in usual Sunday attendances amounts to less than three people for each of our 13,000 parishes. That equals about one family away each week. These changed patterns of attendance need researching to see if it can be established that as many people as before, or indeed more, are coming to church, but less frequently.

Your report mentioned some of the "green shoots" which are undoubtedly visible around the country, but omitted the very significant fact that the numbers of people selected to train for the vitally important stipendiary ministry have increased. Between 1995 and 1996 they went up by 15.8 per cent, from 215 to 249. The total, including non-stipendiary clergy, showed an overall increase of 4.8 per cent from 372 to 390.

Yours,
†NIGEL WAKEFIELD,
Chairman,
Church of England
Communications Committee,
Bishop's Lodge, Woodthorpe Lane,
Wakefield, West Yorkshire.
February 7.

From Mr Michael Robinson

Sir, Your report today that the Church of England has suffered its biggest fall in Sunday attendance for 20 years leads me to wonder whether previous figures may have been exaggerated somewhat to impress the relevant bishop.

Our diocese, like others, has now changed to a system based on church attendance (and electoral-roll numbers) when determining how much each parochial church council is asked to pay towards central costs. This is now a significant disincentive to exaggeration.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL ROBINSON,
Hillcroft,
36 Trevelyan Way,
Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire.
February 7.

From the Reverend Dr Tom Ambrose

Sir, The recently published figures show a large fall in the number of Christmas communicants in 1995. In that year Christmas Eve was a Sunday. Not everyone would want to receive Communion on the Sunday morning, and then again at midnight or on Christmas Day.

At the time there was a lengthy correspondence between Church of England users of the Internet about the disruption to the normal pattern of services when Christmas Eve was a Sunday.

Many churches held fewer Communion services than normal around Christmas 1995. More people were attending non-Eucharistic family services on Christmas Day, or a service of blessing the crib early on Christmas Eve.

Statistics about numbers of worshippers at services like these have never been collected. If they were, they might reveal a small but steady increase in Christmas attendance.

Yours sincerely,
TOM AMBROSE
(Director of Communications,
Diocese of Ely),
The Vicarage, Main Street,
Witchford, Ely, Cambridgeshire.
February 7.

Watching brief

From Mr Michael Sinclair Sutcliffe

Sir, With the formation of a new food safety council or, alternatively, a "food watchdog" or "Off-food" — as suggested by Professor P. L. Lantos (letter, January 31) — the Ministry of Agriculture can now change its full title to something more honest and reflecting its true priorities, namely the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Farmers.

Yours faithfully,
M. SUTCLIFFE,
26 Park Lane,
Southwold, Suffolk.
February 3.

Support deferred

From Dr Peter Jequier

Sir, I intend to vote for the Conservatives at the next general election. They can have 2 per cent of my vote in April and the rest in December.

Yours faithfully,
P. W. JEQUIER,
23 Turketel Road,
Folkestone, Kent.
February 8.

هكذا من الامل

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 10: The Rt Hon John Major MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of The Queen this evening.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Chancellor, today visited the University of Cambridge and this afternoon, as Visitor, visited Wolfson College, Cambridge.

His Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire (Mr James Crowden).

The Lord Lucas of Crudwell (Lord in Waiting) called upon The President the Republic of Peru at the Hyatt Carlton Tower Hotel, Cadogan Place, London SW1, this morning and, on behalf of The Queen, welcomed His Excellency on his Arrival in this country.

The Viscount Long (Lord in Waiting) called upon The President the Republic of Panama at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, London W1, this morning and, on behalf of The Queen, welcomed His Excellency on his Arrival in this country.

The Lord Lucas of Crudwell (Lord in Waiting) called upon The President the Federative Republic of Brazil at 54 Mount Street, London W1, this morning and, on behalf of The Queen, welcomed His Excellency on his Arrival in this country.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 10: The Prince Edward, Trustee, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, this evening attended a Dinner to celebrate the Chinese New Year at the Oriental Restaurant, the Dorchester Hotel, London W1.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 10: The Princess Royal, Past President, the Chartered Institute of Transport, this evening attended the Metropolitan Section's Fiftieth Anniversary Conference "Rail Privatisation One Year On" at the Institution of Electrical Engineers, Savoy Place, London WC2.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
February 10: The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, this morning commenced a two day seminar to discuss sustainable agriculture.

KENSINGTON PALACE
February 10: The Duke of Gloucester this evening attended a Reception at Guildhall given by the Corporation of London on the occasion of "The Link into Latin America" conference.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
February 10: The Duke of Kent, Patron, this evening attended the British Computer Society Awards Evening, at the Institution of Civil Engineers, Great George Street, London SW1.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen will hold an investiture at Buckingham Palace at 11.00.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Chancellor, will visit Cambridge University at 12.30; and, as Patron of the Outward Bound Trust, will attend a dinner at the Hyatt Carlton Tower hotel at 7.30.

The Princess Royal, as Patron of Sense — the National Deafblind and Rubella Association, will attend a Westminster communicator guide project at Westminster City Hall at 11.00; as President of the Save the Children Fund, will attend the industry and commerce group meeting at Buckingham Palace at 4.00 and present the corporate members fundraiser certificates at 6.00.

Receptions

Corporation of London
The Duke of Gloucester yesterday attended a reception in Guildhall given by the Corporation of London and Alderman Sir Alexander Graham, Senior Alderman Representing the Lord Mayor, to mark the Link into Latin America Conference. Alderman Sir Alexander Graham and the President of Peru were the speakers.

The President of Panama, Ambassadors and other members of the Diplomatic Corps, Members of both Houses of Parliament, Members of the European Parliament, and representatives of organisations having commercial and cultural connections with Latin America, representatives of City institutions, Aldermen, Common Councilmen and Officers of the Corporation of London were among those present.

Baroness Park of Monmouth
Baroness Park of Monmouth gave a reception in honour of the Keston Institute in the House of Lords on Thursday, February 6.

Birthdays today

Sir Ronald Arculus, former diplomat, 74; Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Berger, 72; Professor Marilyn Butler, Rector, Exeter College, Oxford, 60; Sir Alec Cairncross, FBA, former Chancellor, Glasgow University, 86; Brigadier Iain Cameron, 54; Dr Timothy Chambers, paediatrician, 51; Mr James Couchman, MP, 55; Mr C.H. Dearnley, organist, 67; Mr Patrick Leigh Fermor, author, 82; Sir Archibald Forster, former chairman, Esso UK, 69; Sir Vivian Fuchs, FRS, former director, British Antarctic Survey, 89; Mr Bryan Gould, former MP, 58; Mr Win Griffiths, MP, 54; Mr Michael Jackson, Director of Television, BBC 2, 39; General Sir Jeremy Mackenzie, 56; Mr Leslie Nielsen, actor, 71.

Miss Mary Quant, fashion designer, 63; Mr Burt Reynolds, actor, 61; the Earl of Rosebery, 68; Mr Patrick Holmes Sellors, ophthalmologist, 63; Baroness Sharples, 74; Mr Dennis Skinner, MP, 65; Mr John Surtees, former motorcycle and motor racing champion, 63; Mr E.W. Swanton, author and sports commentator, 90; Miss Mary Tregear, FBA, Oriental art historian, 73; Mr M.C. Walker, chairman, Iceland Frozen Foods, 51.

Lecture

Royal Society
Professor Peter Lachmann, FRS, Biological Secretary of the Royal Society, presided at the Royal Society Glaxo Wellcome lecture delivered by Professor Charles Weissman, a foreign member, last night at 6 Carlton House Terrace. Among those present were:

Sir Aaron Klug, OM, PRS, Professor J M Newsom-Davis, FRS, Professor A D Baddeley, FRS, Professor P M Biggs, FRS, Dr Dame Anne McLaren, FRS, Dr W Plowright, FRS, Professor I V Allen, Professor M C Raff, FRS, and Sir Richard Sykes, Deputy Chairman of Chief Executive, Glaxo Wellcome.

Forthcoming marriages

Sir Aubrey Brocklebank, Bt, and Miss H. Roden
The engagement is announced between Aubrey, son of the late Sir John Brocklebank and of Lady Brocklebank, of Newmarket, Suffolk, and Hazel, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Roden, of Wellingborough, Northamptonshire.

Mr J.H.L. Adams and Miss N.J. Agace
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, elder son of Mr and Mrs John Adams, of Cobham, Surrey, and Nichola, daughter of Mr Simon Agace, of Kensington, London, and Mrs Jane Wates, of Shiplake, Oxfordshire.

Mr E.G. Findlay and Miss E.M. Hawksley
The engagement is announced between Ewan, younger son of Mr and Mrs W. Findlay, of Edinburgh, and Elisabeth Mary, daughter of Mr N.S. Hawksley, and the late Mrs D.C. Hawksley, and stepdaughter of Mrs H.G. Hawksley, of Gasper, Wiltshire.

Mr A.I.C. Fraser and Miss R.H. Mays-Smith
The engagement is announced between Archie, son of the late Mr Rory Fraser and of Mrs Edward Eyre, of Great Durnford, Salisbury, and Henrietta, daughter of Mr Martin Mays-Smith, of Chaddleworth, Newbury and the late Mrs Jennifer Mays-Smith.

Mr D.A. Lawson-Rogers and Miss L.A.M. Habgood
The engagement is announced between Dominic, son of Stuart Lawson-Rogers, QC, and Rosalind Lawson-Rogers, of Hampshire, and Louise, daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Habgood, of Warwickshire.

Mr P.M. Passmore and Miss E.J.L. McIntyre
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs A.P.R. Passmore, of Tilford, Surrey, and Emma, daughter of Mr and Mrs I.A. McIntyre, of Haslemere, Surrey.

Mr W.M. Richards and Miss C.B. Younger
The engagement is announced between William, eldest son of Canon Bill Richards, of Martley, Worcestershire and the late Mrs Elizabeth Bradshaw, and Catherine, only daughter of Lieutenant Colonel David Younger, of Melrose, Roxburghshire, and Mrs Jane Younger, of Gilling East, York.

Mr T.G. Rowley and Miss K.M. McKie
The engagement is announced between Gavin, son of the late Mr Jeremy Rowley and of Mrs Janet Rowley, of Spelsbury, Oxfordshire, and Kate, daughter of Mr and Mrs Gordon McKie, of Dunoon, Argyle, Scotland.

Mr J.A.O. Russell and Miss S.L. Doyne
The engagement is announced between James, eldest son of Dr and Mrs Andrew Russell, of Hever, Kent, and Lucinda, daughter of Mr and Mrs Patrick Doyne, of Idlicote, Warwickshire.

Mr P.J. Satchwell and Miss V.C. Lester
The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs Alf Satchwell, of Stourbridge, West Midlands, and Claire, daughter of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Lester, of Wallingford, Oxfordshire.

TONY WHITE

Pupils from the Swaminarayan School in Neasden, north London, were among musicians aged five to 18 taking part in the Lollipop Proms at the Festival Hall yesterday before an audience of 5,000 primary school children from all over the capital

Memorial service

Dr Douglas Guest
The Lord and Lady Mayoress of Westminster attended a service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Dr Douglas Guest, Organist Emeritus of Westminster Abbey, held yesterday in Westminster Abbey. Canon David Hutt officiated, assisted by the Rev Barry Fenton, Precentor. The Right Rev Dr John Baker and the Right Rev Edward Knapp-Fisher said prayers.

Mr Jeremy Garrett-Cox, grandson, read the lesson. Sir David Willcocks gave an address.

Canon Anthony Harvey, Canon Donald Gray, the Rev Jonathan Goodall, Chaplain and Sacrist, the Very Rev Trevor Beeson, the Rev Neil Collings, the Rev Roger Job and Canon Charles Taylor were robed and seated in the sacrarium.

Mr Martin Baker, Sub-Organist of Westminster Abbey, and Mr Christopher Robinson, Organist and Director of Music, St John's, Cambridge, played during the service.

The Receiver General, the Registrar, the Organist and Master of the Choristers, the Keeper of the Muniments, the Headmaster of the Choir School, the Surveyor of the Fabric, the Surveyor Emeritus, the Under Master of Westminster and the Master of the Queen's Scholars were in procession.

Among others present were:

Mrs Guest (widow), Mr and Mrs Martin Garrett-Cox and Professor and Mrs Simon de Lange (sons-in-law and daughters), Mrs Jeremy Garrett-Cox, Dr Robin Garrett-Cox, M and Mme Emmanuel Jan, Miss Cara de Lange and Miss Claire de Lange (grandchildren), Mr A H Guest (brother), Mr and Mrs Peter Falconer (brother-in-law and sister-in-law), Mrs G Guest (sister-in-law), Mr and Mrs Thomas Falconer, Mr and Mrs William Falconer, Mr and Mrs Paul Weller, Victoria Weller, Atalanta Weller, Pandora Weller, Mr Paul Guest, Mr and Mrs R J Parker.

Countess Baldwin of Bewdley, the Right Rev Dr David Say, Mrs Edward Knapp-Fisher, Mrs Austin Baker, Lord and Lady Catto, Major Sir Ralph Anstruther of that Ilk, Sir David Lumsden (Royal Academy of Music) and Lady Lumsden, Lady Berdil, Lady Bliss, Sir Peter Cazalit, Sir Colin Corness, Lady Milner-Barry, Sir John Moreton, Lady Pullen, Dame Ruth Railton, Lieutenant-General Sir Alan Reay, Lady Willcocks.

Mrs Anthony Allen, Mr William Allen, Mr David Anderson, Mr Matthew Arnold, Mrs S Arnold, Professor Norman Ashton, the Rev M F Barney, Mr David Boehm, Group Captain David Bolton, Mr and Mrs James Bowen, Mr and Mrs James Bowman, Mr and Mrs Michael Brown, Mrs W A Brown, Mrs D Burress, Dr John Buttrey, Canon A D Caesar, the Rev Dr Edward Carpenter KCVO, and Mrs Carpenter, Mr Paul Carpenter, Mr E B H Chappell, Mrs G B Chichester, the Rev Stuart M Coates, Mr C H Cowan, Mr Henry Christophers.

Mr John Cruft, Mr Nicholas Danby, Mrs M Day-Lewis, Mrs Roger Eastman, Mr David Falconer, Mr Patrick Falconer, Mr Richard Farthing, Mr and Mrs T V N Fortescue, Mr Martin Gibbins, Mrs Elizabeth Gordon, Miss Joan Greenwood, Rear-Admiral and Mrs Edward Gueritz, Mr George Guest, Mr John Harris, Professor and Mrs J W S Harris, Mr and Mrs Hervé Jan, Mr Peter Hewitt, Mr David Hill, Mrs Deborah Hinton, Mr and Mrs D J Holmes, Mr Michael Howell, Mr A W Howitt, Dr H J Hoyland, Mr John Hughes, Canon Michael Irving.

Mrs J Jennings, Mr David Johnston, Miss Ann Killick, Canon P C Magee, Mr and Mrs D G Martin, Squadron Leader R Mills, Mr G R Moore, Mr C Morcom, QC, Mr Geoffrey Morgan, Mr John Morris, Mr J M Moss, Mr and Mrs Andrew Muir, Dr A Musson, Mrs Martin Neary, Mrs H G Nicholas, Mrs Edward Norman-Butler, Mr and Mrs J Parker, Mr A Platt, Mr Simon Preston, Mr M Price, Mrs J Randle, Mr B C Robertson, Mrs Christopher Robinson, Mrs Jane Rogers, Mrs Bernard Rose, Mr Gregory Rose, Mr David Samworth, Dr John Sanders.

Mr John Scott, Mr Richard Seal, Mr R Seiller, Miss P Seiller, Mr and Mrs D A Shirley, Mrs Rennie Simpson, Mr Jonathan Simpson, Mr and Mrs G Smallbone, Mr Kenneth Stern, Mr Derek Sutton, Mr K M Taylor, Mr J P S Thomson, Miss Diana Towell, Prebendary Patrick Tuft, Dr and Mrs A W G Weir, the Rev Lyndon Van Der Pump, Mrs Ursula Vaughan Williams, Mrs P Vaughan, Mrs A Webb, Mr Wilfred Willcocks, Mr Martin Williams.

Dr John A Birch (Royal College of Music), Mr Stephen Cleobury (director of music, King's College Cambridge) and Mrs Cleobury, Mr Richard Popplewell (Organists' Benevolent League), Dr Stephen Winkley (Headmaster, Uppingham School) with Mr David Samworth (chairman of the trustees) and Mr Keith Taylor (Uppingham Association); Mrs C M H Gibb (secretary, Royal Society of Musicians of Great Britain), Ms W Hillary (honorary secretary, Elgar Society) with Mr John H Greig (treasurer) and Mr Martin Passande (chairman, London branch); Mr Raymond Monk (Elgar Foundation).

Miss Helen Faulkner (secretary, Musicians' Benevolent Fund), Canon Jeremy Davies (representing the Dean and Chapter, Salisbury Cathedral), Mr Julian Wiltshire (Salisbury Musical Society), Mr Graham Ireland (representing the Head Master and Governors of Reading School), Major Stanley Holmes (HAC) and Mrs Holmes, Dr Donald Hunt (representing the Worcester Old Choristers, the Worcester Festival Choral Society and the Three Choirs Festival), Commander N T Fuller (Flyfishers' Club), Mr James Wilkinson (Old Choristers Association) and many other friends.

Luncheons

HM Government
Mr Jeremy Hanley, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was the host at a luncheon given by Her Majesty's Government yesterday at the Garrick to bid farewell to Dato' Kassim Daud, High Commissioner for Brunei.

Newspaper Conference
The Chancellor of the Exchequer was the guest of honour and speaker at the annual luncheon of the Newspaper Conference held yesterday at the London Hilton on Park Lane. Mr Bob Podmore, chairman, presided.

Monday Luncheon Club
Mr Henry Kelly was the principal guest at a luncheon of the Monday Luncheon Club held yesterday at the Savoy Hotel. Mr Roland Shaw presided.

Maldivian Government
Mr Abdulla Yameen, Minister of Trade, Industries and Labour of the Maldivian Government, was the host at a luncheon held yesterday at the Copthorne Tara Hotel, Kensington.

In the morning Earl Ferrers, Minister for Environment and Countryside, and principal guest at the luncheon, opened the Business and Investment Opportunities Seminar on the Maldives. Mr Ivan Corea was in the chair.

American Chamber of Commerce (UK)
Sir Brian Goswell, President of the American Chamber of Commerce (UK), was in the chair at a luncheon held yesterday at One Whitehall Place in honour of Lord Saatchi.

Elizabeth Cornwell

A Memorial Service for Miss Elizabeth Cornwell, Headmistress of Greycotes School, Oxford, from 1949-1963, will be held on Tuesday, March 18, at St Andrew's Church, Linton Road, Oxford at 2.00pm. For further details telephone 01865 553210.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Elizabeth of York, Consort of King Henry VII, London, 1465 (she died this day, London, 1503); William Fox Talbot, photographic pioneer, Lacock Abbey, Wiltshire, 1800; Thomas Alva Edison, inventor, Milan, Ohio, 1847; Farouk I, King of Egypt 1936-52, Cairo, 1920.

DEATHS: Carl Bellman, songwriter, Stockholm, 1795; Sir Charles Parsons, inventor of the steam turbine, Kingston, Jamaica, 1931; John Buchan, 1st Baron Tweedsmuir, novelist, historian, Governor-General of Canada 1935-40, Montreal, 1940; Sergy Eisenstein, film director, Moscow, 1948.

Dinners

1912 Club
Mr David Maclean, MP, was the guest of honour at a dinner of the 1912 Club held last night at the House of Commons by invitation of Mr David Amess, MP, chairman of the club, and sponsored by Mr David Atkinson, MP. Mrs Violet Bateman also spoke.

Society of Chemical Industry
Mr K.J. Minton, President of the Society of Chamical Industry, was the host at a dinner held last night at Lawson House, Runcorn, to confer Lampitt Medals in recognition of outstanding service to the socieh in furtherance of its 1907 charter objectives on Dr D.W. Broad and Professor R.J. Hamilton.

The Athenaeum
Baroness Hogg was the principal speaker at a talk dinner held last night at the Athenaeum. Sir Patrick Cormack, MP, presided.

Cardiff Business Club
The Lord Mayor of Cardiff, Councillor J.R. Phillips, and the High Sheriff of South Glamorgan, Mr R.P.V. Rees, were present at a dinner held by the Club at the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff, last night. The guest speaker was Mr Albert Reynolds, TD, former Taoiseach of Ireland. Mr Graham Hawker, Chief Executive Hyder PLC, presided.

Meeting

Royal Over-Seas League
Mr Michael O'Connor, Acting Chief Executive of the Millennium Commission, was the guest speaker at a meeting of the Discussion Circle of the Royal Over-Seas League held last night at Over-Seas House, St James's. Mr L.J. Lickorish presided.

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Be obedient to God your Father, and do not let your characters be shaped any longer by the desires you cherished in your days of ignorance. 1 Peter 1 : 14

BIRTHS

BACKHOUSE - On 7th February 1997, to Henrietta (née Spendlove) and Roger, a daughter, Elizabeth Sophie, a sister for Alex and Theo.

BARRON - On February 2nd 1997, to Heather (née Grant) and David, a daughter, Ella Mary Louise, a sister to James and Thomas.

BAYLISS - On 2nd February 1997, to Nicole (née Davis) and Mark, a lovely son, Joseph Peter, a brother for Benjamin and Sammy.

DAVIS - On January 29th, to Jane (née Povey) and Adrian, a daughter, Katharine Jane, a sister for Rachel.

EL KOUBANI - On February 7th at The Portland Hospital, to Ibrahim and Bihah, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Awad Osman and Khalid.

FLACK - On 6th February at St Thomas's Hospital, to Debbie (née Williamson) and Andrew, a daughter, Isobel Clara Jane Campbell, a sister for Harry.

FREETH - On 7th February, to Fiona (née McShane) and Michael, a son, Quentin James Edward, a brother for Clementine.

GOUDIME - On February 8th at The John Radcliffe, Oxford, to Georgi and Michael, a daughter, Holly Tatiana.

HEARD - On February 7th 1997, to Alexandra (née Tallis) and Edward, a son, Henry Simon William.

HOARE - On 1st February, to Lee and Nicholas, a son, Timothy Charles.

KELLY/BENNETT-JENKINS - On February 9th 1997, to Sallie and Brendan, two sons and a daughter, Thomas Daniel Bennett, William John Bosco Bennett and Isobel Beth Bennett.

OWEN - On February 4th 1997 at Kings College Hospital, to Helen (née Bland) and Christopher, a son, Thomas Richard George, a brother for Edmund and Marissa.

PEEL - On February 4th 1997, to Rosanna (née Palmer) and Edward, a son, Zachary Geoffrey Gratton.

PERRETT - On 3rd February 1997, to Jill (née Boden) and Mark, a daughter, Olivia Katharine Louise, a sister for Alexander.

SCOTT - On 5th February 1997, to Moole (née Cherrington) and Dominic, a son, a brother for Susanna, Bella, Anastasia and Sasha.

SMART - On February 5th at The Portland Hospital, to Rona (née Shiach) and David, a son, Alexander David Thomas Shiach, a brother for Charlotte and Lucinda.

SMITH - On February 5th at The Portland Hospital, to Sonya (née Pickering) and Philip, a little ray of sunshine, Kirsty Laine.

STRINGER - On 5th February 1997, to Rosanne (née de Pinna) and Jeremy, a daughter, Molly Anne.

BIRTHS

WILBERFORCE-RITCHIE - On 9th February 1997, to Victoria and Andrew, a gorgeous daughter, Imogen Kate, a sister for Benjamin.

DEATHS

ALLISON - On February 8th 1997 peacefully at home Winifred Rita aged 92, widow of Ralph Allison. Much loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral Service 2 pm Thursday 13th February St Alban's Church, Tattenhall. No flowers please, but donations if wished to Imperial Cancer Research Fund, 61 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PX.

APPLEBY - Gladys Ruth, widow of the late Francis Frederick John Appleby and much loved mother of Joan Senger and Gillian Penbrook, died peacefully in her sleep on 6th February 1997 aged 92 years.

BRANDT - Yvelyne. Devoted mother of Philip, Anthony and Christopher; former wife of Denis. Peacefully, surrounded by her family in the night of Sunday, 9th February. Funeral on Thursday, 13th February, at 10 am at Our Lady of Victories, 235A High Street, Kensington, London, W8. Family flowers only. Donations to The Trinity Hospice, 30 Clapham Common Northside, London, SW4 0RN.

CALDER-SMITH - Rosemary (née Benda) was suddenly taken ill and died peacefully at hospital on Saturday February 8th. Dearly loved by her children Henrietta, Anthony, Victoria, Dominic and Benjamin, her brother Anthony and her seven grandchildren. Funeral will be held on Friday 14th February at 3 pm at All Saints Church, Crondall, near Farnham, Surrey.

CARFRAE - Charles, MC, late Somerset Light Infantry, on February 9th after a stroke. Funeral 2 pm Monday 17th February at Littlehempston Church. In lieu of flowers, donations to Devon Wildlife Trust Limited, 35 St Davids Hill, Exeter.

COSSART - Charlie. The funeral will take place at 12 noon on Monday 17th February at St Lawrence's Church, Petersfield, Hampshire. Family flowers only. Donations to British Diabetic Association and The Wessex Childrens Hospice Trust, c/o Lizzott & Sons Funeral Directors, North Street, Midhurst, GU29 9DG. (01730-813264).

DEATHS

COLLINS - George Henry, FInstLEx. Peacefully but all too suddenly at Epsom General Hospital on February 6th aged 73. Beloved husband of Iola, father of Ines, father-in-law of Chris and Grandfather of Graham and Georgina. For nearly 50 years a legal executive with Withers and latterly an unsparing Chairman of Finance and Vice-President of Caddington Golf Club. He will be most sadly missed by his family and all his many clients and friends. Cremation at noon on February 18th at the North East Surrey Crematorium, Lower Morden Lane, Morden, Surrey. Family flowers only but donations, if desired, to the British Heart Foundation, the Cancer Research Campaign or St Raphael's Hospice c/o A & K Longhurst, Funeral Directors, 21 Kingston Road, Ewell, Surrey.

COX - Irene Margaret on 6th February 1997 peacefully, aged 92 years. Wife of the late Percy (Peter) Cox and mother of Antony, Patricia and Thomas. Much loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Private cremation. Service of Thanksgiving at St Nicholas' Church, Sevenoaks, Kent at 3pm on Friday 21st February. Family flowers only please, but donations if desired to Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund.

DALHOUSIE - Margaret, beloved wife of Simon, Earl of Dalhousie, KT, peacefully on 9th February. Funeral St Ninian's Church, Brechin, at 12.30 pm on 14th February.

DICKIE - Susanna Mary. On Saturday, February 8th 1997 at her home in Taupo, New Zealand. Dearly loved wife of Simon and much loved mother of Chloë, Eloise and Clementine, in her 42nd year.

DITTRICH - Lilian Beatrice, peacefully at Pembury Hospital on 6th February, 1997 aged 94. Widow of the late Victor Frederick Dittrich. Formerly resident at Quinton, West Midlands and latterly at Weald Hall Residential Home, Wadhurst, East Sussex. Beloved mother of Ronald Leslie and mother-in-law of Catherine Celene, dearest grandmother of Leslie and Tatyana and Andrew, great-grandmother of Maxim. Funeral Service at St Dunstan's Church, Mayfield, East Sussex at 2pm, on Thursday, 20th February followed by cremation at 3 pm at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium. Flowers may be sent to Paul Bysouth Funeral Services, 9, Croft Road, Crowborough, East Sussex, TN6 1DL. Tel: (01892) 665000.

ELLIOT-SMITH - A.G. "Elliot", CBE MA. In his 93rd year at Eastbourne. Devoted husband to Ruth. Assistant Master Harrow 1940, Headmaster Cheltenham College 1940-51, Headmaster Victoria College, Cairo, until expelled at Suez Headmaster Collegio Markham, Lima, Peru, until 1961. Will be remembered with admiration and affection by his many old pupils. No letters please.

EVANS - David Bernard on February 7th in Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge, a place he has served so well for thirty years. Dear sweet love of his adoring wife Janet, proud father of Philip, Peter, Richard and Nancy, much loved grandpa of Charlotte and Cameron and dear brother of Nansi Davies. He will be sadly missed by colleagues, patients and friends who loved and trusted him. I hope they will all join us for a Memorial Service to be held in April. Funeral at Girton Church on Thursday 13th February at 3pm. Family flowers only but donations to Girton P.C.C. for the Organ Fund, a cause very dear to his heart, may be sent to Harry Williams & Sons, 7 Victoria Park, Cambridge. Please pray for us in our deep loss.

FOX - Frances Mary (née Stevens-Guille) peacefully in Guernsey on 7th February 1997, a much loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral Service at St Stephens Church Guernsey on Friday 14th February at 1.30 pm followed by cremation. Family flowers only, donations if desired to U.S.P.G. c/o St Martins Rectory, Guernsey, GY4 6RR.

GOULD - Joe Christopher Charles, aged 16, on 4th February 1997 after a courageous fight for life. Beloved son of Lynne and Jeremy and adored older brother of James and Poppy. Deeply loved grandson of Irene and Stanley Slattery. Funeral at St Leonard's, Heddington at noon on 17th February. Donations if desired to the Cancer and Leukaemia in Childhood Trust (CLIC) c/o J & M Humphris, 32 Albert Street, Banbury, Oxon. OX16 8DG.

GOVER - John Henry of Exeter aged 66 years suddenly in Oxford on 7th February. Dear brother of Bill, Mike and Tom. Service for family and friends at Oxford Crematorium on Thursday 20th February at 12.30 pm. No flowers. Donations if desired to Exeter Age Concern, 138 Cowick Street, Exeter. Memorial Service and interment of ashes to be arranged later in Devon.

HUISKAMP - Gerard Bernard (Bob), former husband and best friend. Peacefully after a short illness in Monte Carlo on January 30th. Monique Huiskamp.

KNOWLTON - Ronald Wallace FRCS, FRCOG, peacefully at home on February 7th aged 92, beloved husband of Nancy, father of Edward and Andrew. Funeral Service at Southampton Crematorium, East Chapel, on Thursday 13th February at 1.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to YMCA c/o J. Lawrence & Sons, 17 St Denys Road, Southampton, SO17 1GN.

KYNASTON - Col. Edward George Aldred (Bob) OBE TD DL JP, peacefully on February 8th. Dearly loved husband of the late Margot, father of Roger and Jeremy, grandfather of Rebecca, Samuel and Mischa; and dear friend to many. Funeral Service at St Monica Home, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol 9 on Friday February 14th at 3.45 pm followed by cremation. No flowers please, but donations if desired to St Peter's Hospice, St Agnes Avenue, Bristol 4.

LOKHANDVALA - Kassmali (Kay) peacefully on 6th February 1997 in Hove. A dearly loved father of Nissa, Iona and Jaffer. A non denominational funeral service at Hove Cemetery Chapel, tomorrow Wednesday 12th February at 1.30 pm followed by muslim interment in Hove Cemetery. Enquiries to Derriman & Haynes tel: (01273) 540168.

LORD - Peter Cyril on February 9th 1997 aged 53, son of Bessie and the late Cyril Lord, father of Andrew, brother of Margot, Jacqueline and Richard. Enquiries Churchview Funeral Service tel: (01494) 776777. Donations in lieu of flowers may be sent to The National Centre for Epilepsy, Chesham Lane, Chalfont St Peter, Bucks. SL9 0RJ.

McMULLEN - Lady Evelyn Frances aged 103 peacefully at home on 9th February after a courageous old age. Widow of Maj. Gen. Sir Donald Jay McMullen. Much loved by Joy, Geoffrey and Elizabeth and their families. Private cremation, followed by Memorial Service at St Mary's, Chidham, 3 pm Wednesday 19th February. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Regnum (West Sussex) Crossroads "Caring for Carers" or St Mary's, Chidham, c/o Co-operative Funeral Directors, Kingsham Avenue, Chichester PO19 2AJ.

NAYLOR - Elisabeth Anne. Suddenly on 6th February aged 72, beloved wife of Francis and mother of Felicity and Sue, grandmother of George and Patrick and mother-in-law of Steve and John. Funeral Service at St Mary's Parish Church, Totnes on Thursday 13th February at 12 noon. Family flowers only but donations if desired to Motor Neurone Association, PO Box 246, Northampton NN1 2PR.

O'DOWD - Sister Eileen (Mother Victorine) died suddenly 3rd February 1997 in Glasgow, formerly Principal Loreto College, Manchester 15. R.I.P. Requiem Mass Thursday 13th February at 12 noon at Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish Church, Llandudno.

POYNDER - Anne (née Harter), beloved wife of Col. Tony Poynder of Gassons, Slindon, on February 6th at St Richard's, Chichester. Family funeral and flowers only. Thanksgiving Service at St Mary's Church, Slindon at 11.30 am Saturday March 22nd.

RANDHAWA - On February 6th 1997 in Calcutta, B.S. (Dick), beloved husband of Cella. Deeply mourned by Davinder, Anita, Jaideep, relatives and friends.

ROBERTS - Peggy, most dearly loved by her family Ginny and Hugh, Jessica and Paul, Flora and Will, Noah, Naomi and Samuel. Went to Heaven on January 30th 1997 aged 86. Funeral 11 am February 19th at St Barnabas Church, Addison Road, Kensington, all very welcome.

ROBINSON - Nancy (née Pinkney), on 6th February after a short illness, aged 81 years. Widow of John, deeply loved mother of Nicholas and Annie; proud grandmother of Charlie, Joanna, Catherine and Edward, James and Emily; dear friend of countless others. Private funeral arrangements. Thanksgiving Service at St Genny's, to be announced later.

RUBINSTEIN - Samuel Eric MBE, husband of the late Joan (née Hirshfield), loved and loving father of Jane Detnow and Anne Sebba, died on February 8th still fighting with typical courage. Grandfather of James, Robert, Sophie, Georgina, Victoria, Tom, Adam, Amy and Imogen.

SHIPP - Joan suddenly at home on 4th February, aged 66. Much loved and adored wife of Cecil, mother of Michael and Kate, grandmother of Megan and Harriet. Private cremation on 17th February. Flowers if wished to T.H. Sanders, High Street, Barnes, SW13, by noon that day.

SLADE - Marion (Constance) née Gordon, on 7th February 1997 in Nairobi, peacefully after a long illness and a brave fight. Wife of Humphrey, mother of Nigel, Olwen, Laurie and Kathy, grandmother of Juliet, Gordon and Annalise, deeply loved by them all.

STEEL - Ann Wynne, darling wife of David - at home on 9th February aged 69. After an illness fought with such courage. Adored wife, mother and grandmother. Funeral Service at 2 pm on Wednesday 19th February at St Simon Zelotes Church, Milner Street, Chelsea, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, but donations please to League of Friends, Royal Marsden Hospital, London or Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund.

SPYROU - Marcos Nicholas, Alexandrian, after a long struggle peacefully in hospital on 24th January 1997. Dearly loved husband of Iphigenia, father of Nicholas and Mary, father-in-law of Margaret and Paul and adored grandfather of Alexis, Melina and Marcos. Funeral Service at St Sophia's Greek Orthodox Cathedral followed by interment at Kensal Green All Souls Cemetery took place on 31st January with family only in attendance. "When you set out for Ithaca ask that your way be long, full of instruction, full of adventure".

STREVENS - Victor Newell on 8th February peacefully after a long illness at Woodford Green. Much loved husband of Marian, father of Shelagh, Heather and Mark and Poppa to the boys.

TATE - Joyce on Friday February 7th suddenly as a result of a car accident aged 74 years of Osmotherley. Beloved wife of Andrew, loving mother of Daphne and Philip. The funeral service will be held at St Mary's Church, Leake, on Thursday 13th February at 1.30 pm followed by interment in the churchyard. No flowers please by request, but donations if desired to the Childrens Society.

TITLEY - Andrew Richard McLaren 9th February 1997 following a tragic road accident in South Africa, much adored son of Nancy and Richard and loving brother of Philip and Susannah. Private funeral service.

TOLSON - On 8th February, 1997 Geoffrey Huntriss, in his 90th year, late Headmaster of St Peter's School, Weston-super-Mare, loving husband of the late Jean, much loved father of Sarah and James and grandfather of Duncan, Piers and Justin. Funeral Service at St Laurence Church, Holwell, near Sherborne, on Friday, 14th February at 12 noon followed by interment. Family flowers only please, but donations, if desired, can be sent to The Animal Sanctuary, Church Knowle, nr. Wareham, Dorset.

URQUHART - Peacefully on Saturday 8th February 1997 after a short illness in Ayr, Gordon Urquhart, dearly loved and loving husband of Florence Cameron, beloved father of Diane, Fanny and John, father-in-law of Michael, Peter and Susie. A dear grandfather of Roderick, Tom, Gavin, Henry, Alexander and Sally. Funeral private.

WALTON - Muriel. On 5th February 1997 at Fleet Valley Nursing Home, Gatehouse of Fleet, aged 90 years. Funeral Service at St Mary's Episcopal Church, Gatehouse of Fleet on Wednesday 12th February at 10.30 am. Family flowers only please.

WILLIAMSON - Dr. Bruce Williamson, psychiatrist, on February 7th 1997, peacefully after a long illness bravely borne in Cheshire, formerly of Headington, Oxford. Funeral arrangement details from Reeves & Pain, tel: (01865) 242529.

WOODHEAD - Kathleen Margaret (Peggy) aged 85 on Friday January 31st peacefully in Ipswich after a long and difficult illness. Formerly of Felixstowe and Dolphin Square and sometime Sister Casualty at St Thomas' Hospital. Much loved aunt of John and Jenny and their families. At her wish, a private funeral service has taken place. Donations may be sent for the R.N.L.I. to Farthing, Singleton and Skatings, 650 Woodbridge Road, Ipswich, IP4 4PW.

YATES - Peacefully, on 10th February 1997, after prolonged ill health, Terence Birley Yates (Capt; R.N. Ret.), beloved husband of Margaret Watson and dear father of David and Richard. Funeral Service to which all friends are respectfully invited on Thursday 13th February 1997 to Masonhill Crematorium, Ayr at 11.30am. Family flowers only please, donations in lieu, if desired, to R.N.L.I. or A.R.N.O.

YOUNG - Robert Henry aged 94 peacefully at his home in Somerset on February 8th 1997. Much loved husband of Norma and loving father of David and Nicholas. Service at Yeovil Crematorium on Monday February 17th at 3.30 pm. Family flowers only but donations if desired to The Open Scanner Appeal, Oncology Unit, Bristol Royal Infirmary.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

BEAZER - Robert. The Memorial Service will be held on Saturday March 1st at 2 pm in St Mary's, Shipton under Wychwood, Oxfordshire.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

FURLONGER - A Thanksgiving Service for the life of Stephen Furlonger FRSA will be held at St Christopher's Church, Haslemere, Surrey, on Saturday 1st March 1997 at 3 pm.

HANBURY - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Christopher Lionel Hanbury will be held at St Peter's Church, Burnham, at 2.30pm on Monday 3rd March.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

BUNTER - Ruby May 11th February 1994. A great lady. Remembered with deepest love today and every day.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

IAN GOW - 11.2.37 - 30.7.90. Remembered with love and pride by all his family.

MALE - Peter John Ellison, CMG, MC. Much missed and much loved. With love Simon and Elaine.

McMANUS - Victor. First Anniversary 10/2/97. Loving thoughts and prayers always. Kate, Deirdre, Siobhan, Adrian and Julian.

ROLF - Dear Muriel who died this day in 1981. Sadly missed. Jim and Geoffrey.

WADIA - In proud and grateful memory of my dearly beloved husband Sir Cusrow Wadia on his birthday February 11th. Born 1869 died 3rd October 1950.

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OBITUARIES

JOHN IRWIN

John Irwin, Keeper of the Indian Department at the Victoria and Albert Museum, 1959-78, died on January 23 aged 79. He was born on August 5, 1917.

John Irwin's seminal studies of Indian textiles and his later researches into the roots of Indian artistic expression contributed greatly to Western appreciation of the culture of the subcontinent. In the historical study of Indian textiles, in particular, he helped to transform scholarly understanding both of the Indo-European textile trade and of the complicated mutual interchange of design ideas and motifs between East and West. His lectures on this and other subjects were enthralling. He kept audiences hanging on to his every word as he developed his arguments like the narrative of a detective mystery.

As Keeper of the Indian Department at the Victoria and Albert Museum, he found himself much involved with attempts to find suitable accommodation for the huge body of the collection which had lost its original suite of galleries in buildings behind the Imperial Institute in 1955. The cream of the collection was arranged in three galleries in the V&A, but the rest was divided and housed in various locations. Irwin argued for, and in 1970 became the head of, a new Oriental Department which brought together the Indian section with a new Far Eastern section. Much of his energy during his last years at the V&A, when he was also Senior Keeper and at times deputising for the Director, Sir John Pope-Hennessy, was spent working on a plan, sadly abandoned later, to develop the Huxley building (now the Henry Cole Wing) as an oriental museum.

Although born in Madras, the son of a coffee planter, John Conran Irwin was still a child when his father retired and returned to England. He spent much of his boyhood in Dorset where, despite a conventional education at Canford School, Wimborne, he nevertheless grew up something of a rebel.

On leaving school he became a journalist, working for a number of newspapers including the *Daily Mirror*, and the *New Statesman* where, under Kingsley Martin, he wrote theatre criticism.

On the outbreak of the Second World War he took a temporary commission with the Gordon Highlanders, but a leg injury sustained in an accident in 1942 while training motorcycle contact officers brought his active service to an end. He was left permanently slightly lame. Irwin was posted back to India as ADC to the Governor of Bengal, Sir Richard Casey. He subsequently served two further Governors as ADC and then as non-political private secretary.

In India he was exposed to the dramatic events of the independence movement, served as secretary to the Bengal Famine Relief Fund in 1944, and formed lasting friendships with Indian scholars and intellectuals. In Calcutta, he also began his career as an art historian, writing jointly with the progressive poet Bishnu Dey the first biography of one of the pioneers of the Indian modern art movement, Jamini Roy.

Returning to England at the end of the war, Irwin joined the Victoria and Albert Museum as Assistant Keeper of the Indian section. Almost immediately he was put to work as executive secretary to the Royal Academy's major exhibition of the *Arts of India and Pakistan*. Initially planned to be held in 1940, the exhibition, which ran through the winter of 1947 until 1948, and its catalogue, have come to symbolise the beginning of a new, post-independence, era in Western appreciation of Indian art.

During the subsequent period, the study of Indian art history was to be transformed, with the writings of both Indian and British scholars, including Irwin's immediate colleagues at the V&A — W. G. Archer, appointed Keeper of the Indian Department in 1949, and Robert Skelton, Irwin's successor.

On Archer's retirement in 1959, Irwin was promoted to Keeper of the Indian Section. At first, despite his greater personal interest in sculpture and antiquities, he was put in charge of the department's large and important collection of textiles. The study he carried out on these was to have a major impact on scholarship in the field and also to lead to strong overseas connections.

He was for a long time closely associated with the Calico Museum of Textiles in Ahmedabad, helping it to build its collections, and co-editing its journal, *The Journal Of Indian Textile History*, where much of his textile research first appeared. Irwin's involvement in the Calico Museum was characteristic of a broader sense of responsibility to India. It was he who arranged for an Ahmedabad house front, deemed impracticable for the V&A to keep after the loss of its Indian galleries, to be sold to the Calico Museum, where it formed, appropriately, the façade of the building.

Irwin's textile research resulted in a number of major publications, among them *Kashmir Shawls* (1955) and *Origins Of Chintz* (1970). He also produced, with Margaret Hall, the first two catalogues of the Calico Museum's collections, *Indian Painted and Printed Fabrics* (1971) and *Indian Embroideries* (1973).

In his later career, and particularly after his retirement, Irwin embarked on an exploration of the foundations of Indian art, the history, archaeology, and artistic influence of the earliest surviving examples of Indian monumental sculpture in stone — the pillars erected by the Emperor Asoka in the 3rd century BC. His argument that the origin of many monuments lay in the cosmic religion predating revealed or written traditions, which he also later applied to his study of early Christian monuments, excited immense interest as well as some controversy.

A slim, handsome man, Irwin was a tireless worker, continuing his meticulous and characteristically scholarly research until recently despite the restrictions of ill-health. He leaves a rich legacy both in the two institutions with which he was most closely involved, and through the writings of a vigorous and original mind.

Irwin is survived by his three sons, and by his wife, Helen, from whom he was separated.

BRIAN CONNOLLY

Brian Connolly, singer with the pop group Sweet, died yesterday of renal failure aged 47. He was born on October 5, 1949.

OUTRAGEOUS in facepaint, sequins and towering platform shoes, Sweet were the quintessential Seventies glam rock act. Behind the flamboyant gimmickry was a band playing punchy, well-crafted and annoyingly memorable songs. But getting behind the gimmickry was never really the point.

The extravagant frivolity of Sweet's stage act was what mattered, and along with such rivals as Mud, Slade, T. Rex, Suzi Quatro, Gary Glitter and Alvin Stardust — few of whom could match them for tongue-in-cheek excess — they offered a brief, boisterous reminder that pop was supposed to be fun. After the gloomy introspection of much late 1960s rock, it was a reminder that many young fans found welcome. By the time Brian Connolly left the group in 1979, Sweet had sold some 50 million records.

Brian Connolly was born in Hamilton, near Glasgow, perhaps a few years earlier than he liked to admit. He grew up in Blantyre, Lanarkshire, and then, from the age of 12, in Middlesex, where he attended Harefield Secondary School. His family background was confused: having discovered only at 18 that he had been brought up by foster parents, he later learnt that his foster father may have been his natural father after all, and that the actor Mark McManus, who played the television detective Taggart and who died in 1994 aged 59, may have been his elder brother.

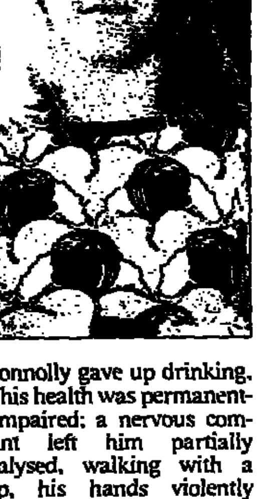
Sweet grew out of a group called Wainwright's Gentlemen, in which Connolly and the drummer Mick Tucker played together in 1966 before forming their own band, Sweetshop, later shortened to Sweet. Sweet released four early singles without success, and it was only when they came into contact with the songwriting team of Nicky Chinn and Mike Chapman that they began to make an impact. Chinn and Chapman dominated the pop charts in the early 1970s, writing for Mud and Suzi Quatro as well as Sweet; on one occasion they had songs simultaneously at No 1, No 2 and No 3, each recorded by a different act.

Chinn and Chapman had a preference for upbeat teen anthems, and they wrote a string of them for Sweet: *Funny Funny*, *Co-Co*, *Poppa Joe*, *Little Willy*. On the B-sides of those catchy, uncomplicated hits, however, the group pursued a rather different direction, recording songs they had written themselves and which were clearly influenced by heavy rock. That influence in turn became apparent in the songs written for the group by Chinn and Chapman; hits such as *Blockbuster* (No 1 in 1973), *Hell Raiser*, *Ballroom Blitz* and *Teenage Rampage* memorably combined the cheerful banalities of lightweight pop with blistering guitars and a bludgeoning beat.

Sweet enjoyed all the trappings of pop success. At one stage Connolly had six Rolls-Royces, a mansion in Surrey and a £250,000 yacht, and his drinking partners included Keith Moon, Mick Jagger and Ringo Starr. But like so many pop groups before and since, Sweet eventually began to tire of being screamed at on *Top of the Pops* by teenage girls.

In 1974 they dispensed with the services of Chinn and Chapman and recorded an album, *Sweet Fanny Adams*; it reached No 27 in the charts, but soon disappeared. Further albums followed, but the hit singles became less frequent. The group had succeeded in losing their teenybopper audience, but without attracting an older, more serious following in its stead: their last Top Ten hit was *Love is Like Oxygen* in 1978.

There were personality clashes, too, and Connolly finally walked out of the group in 1979. He initially enjoyed some success as a solo act, but his drinking had by now become excessive, and in 1981 he almost died after suffering multiple heart attacks. His marriage ended in divorce, and his house was sold to meet an enormous tax bill.



Connolly gave up drinking, but his health was permanently impaired; a nervous complaint left him partially paralysed, walking with a limp, his hands violently shaking. But he continued to perform, retaining his trademark long peroxide blond hair and fronting a group he called Brian Connolly and Sweet, reliving his glamorous heyday in small clubs and Butlins holiday camps. Andy Scott, the guitarist whom Connolly blamed for forcing him out of the original Sweet, led a rival version of the group aimed at the same nostalgic market.

That market grew perceptibly in the 1990s, with Seventies nostalgia becoming a highly profitable business and glam rock undergoing something of an ironic revival. Connolly enjoyed the renewed attention from film-makers, journalists and television producers, and the royalties earned when a new generation of performers such as Def Leppard and Pat Benatar recorded cover versions of Sweet songs. But a documentary about him on Channel 4 last year made it clear that he was far from well.

He is survived by his girlfriend Jean and their young son, and by two grown-up daughters from his marriage.

IVO DE SOUZA

Ivo de Souza, OBE, wartime RAF pilot and Jamaican diplomat, died on January 19 aged 78. He was born in Kingston, Jamaica, on August 24, 1918.

ONE of that brave band of young West Indians who answered Churchill's call to arms in 1940, Ivo de Souza flew many low-level intruder and bombing sorties in Mosquitoes over occupied Europe from 1942 until 1945. After the end of the war he thought about remaining in the RAF, but new opportunities awaited him. After taking a degree in Public Administration and working for the Jamaican government service he returned to Britain to set up the British Caribbean Welfare Service in 1953.

For the next nine years he headed the service, which dealt with the flow of West Indian immigration that the British Government had encouraged as an answer to labour shortages in the 1950s. In the wake of the Notting Hill riots of 1958 he was a prime mover in setting up the Standing Conference of West Indian organisations, formed in response to the unrest.

After independence, he went on to have a distinguished career as a Jamaican diplomat in the Americas and, finally, in London.

Ivo Seymour de Souza was educated at St George's High School, Kingston, and after a short period teaching there joined the Jamaican Government Civil Service in 1938. In 1940 he volunteered to join the RAF and after training in Canada was posted to a Mosquito intruder squadron in Britain in November 1942.

From then until the end of the war he served two tours, one in 21 Squadron and the second in 462 (Australian) Squadron, being one of only six of his intake of 60 aircrew to survive that long. He flew strafing attacks on Luftwaffe airfields, patrols over the Normandy beachhead on D-Day and, as a flight commander, took part in the Mosquito raid on the Gestapo HQ in Copenhagen in March 1945 which completely wrecked the building, destroyed archives which would have compromised the Danish Resistance and killed their custodians.

At the end of the war, on temporary release from the RAF, he took a degree in Public Administration at Manchester University, where he also met and married his wife Joan, in 1949. While at Manchester he was attached to the air squadron and he returned briefly to the RAF after taking his degree. But having decided against a permanent commission, in 1951 he went back to Jamaica and worked for a couple of years in the Ministry of Labour.

But in 1953 he was called back to London where the Colonial Office gave him the task of finding out just how many West Indian immigrants were coming to Britain. The British Caribbean Welfare Service, which he founded, met immigrants at entry ports, made sure they found employment and accommodation and helped them to settle in. De Souza also formed an all-party lobbying group of MPs and local councillors to heighten awareness of the problems of large numbers of immigrants — problems which surfaced most dramatically in the 1958 Notting Hill riots — and counter the increasingly vociferous calls for immigration control. De Souza was head of the welfare service until 1962 and was appointed OBE for his work in 1960.

In August 1962 he represented the newly-independent Jamaica at celebrations in London and his career was thereafter as a diplomat. He served as Deputy High Commissioner in Ottawa, helping to organise Jamaican fruit farm workers in Canada. After a spell at the Ministry of Defence from 1962 to 1965, de Souza became High Commissioner to Trinidad and Tobago and the eastern Caribbean territories, and was energetic in promoting Jamaica's attempts to secure closer economic integration in the West Indies through the formation of the Caribbean Free Trade Association, designed to compensate for the collapse of the West Indies Federation.

From 1974 to 1976 he was Jamaica's Ambassador to Venezuela, Ecuador and Colombia, returning to London to be Deputy High Commissioner, 1977-78. In retirement he was a member of Jamaica's contingent to the team of international observers who monitored Zimbabwe's first elections in 1980. He continued to take an interest in the welfare of the West Indian community in Britain. He had retained his rank as a flight lieutenant, RAFVR, and his funeral was at the RAF church, St Clement Dane's, in the Strand.

He is survived by his wife Joan and by two daughters.

HANNES VAHL

Hannes Vahl, managing director of Siemens UK, 1972-86, died on January 15 aged 73. He was born in Freiburg, Germany, on July 6, 1923.

HANNES VAHL came from a generation of businessmen who spearheaded the postwar German economic revival. His training as an electrical engineer led him to join Siemens in 1948 where his combination of technical and management skills resulted in a rapid rise through the ranks. He served as managing director of the company in Britain for more than 13 years, during which time he did much to improve Anglo-German trade. In 1986 he became an honorary member of the Anglo-German Chamber of Industry and Commerce.

By the mid-1950s the Siemens company had largely recovered from the ravages of the war and was seeking to re-establish itself as an international supplier of electrical systems and equipment. Large-scale projects, such as power stations, played an important role in expansion schemes, particularly in the developing world, and in 1954 Vahl was posted to Istanbul, a year later to Lahore and in 1958 to Tehran, where he remained until 1972.

By the time Vahl left Iran, Siemens, well represented in much of the developing world, was looking towards more industrialised countries. The company had enjoyed a long-standing association with Britain, having been in large part responsible for establishing the nascent British electrical industry during the 19th century. So it was that in 1972 Vahl became the managing director of Siemens UK.

He convinced the board of Siemens — who saw Britain at that time as a strike-ridden country with high inflation and excessive state intervention — that the UK was worthy of sustained investment. He gradually built the company up from small beginnings in offices in Brentford, establishing its first postwar manufacturing facility in Congleton in Cheshire. Today the company employs some 11,000 people in more than 30 locations.

Vahl became a convinced Anglophile, and after retirement remained in Britain. He is survived by his wife, Inge, and by three daughters.

ON THIS DAY

February 11, 1964

Fanny Hill was republished in 1970 without further prosecution and is now available in paperback.

MAGISTRATE RULES THAT "FANNY HILL" IS OBSCENE

John Cleland's eighteenth-century novel *Fanny Hill — Memoirs of a Woman of Pleasure* is obscene, Sir Robert Blundell, the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, ruled at Bow Street Magistrates' Court yesterday. He made an order that 171 paperback copies of the book seized by police should be forfeited.

Sir Robert said: "I have come to my decision on what I have heard in the witness-box and such exhibits as I have seen . . . doing the best I can in the circumstances I have no hesitation in saying that the order should be made." . . .

Mr Jeremy Hutchinson, QC, for Mayflower Books, had submitted that the book was not obscene.

Mr. Robert Pitman, of the Green, Twickenham, Middlesex, literary critic of the *Sunday Express* and formerly a teacher in English at a London grammar school, said he agreed with earlier witnesses that there were now many books in general circulation that dealt with matters of sex in an explicit way.

Mr. Hutchinson.—In all the aspects that are dealt with in *Fanny Hill?*—Yes, that and more.

Do you take the view that there are books freely published and in circulation which are corrupting?—Yes, I do.

You have in fact published a pamphlet protesting against such publications?—Yes, discussing the subject and incidentally protesting.

Mr Pitman said that *Fanny Hill* had literary and historical merit.

Mr Hutchinson—How does it compare for treatment of the sex episodes with other books which are in circulation?

Mr Pitman—Its treatment is wholesome and successful from the literary point of view compared with a great range of books that are being published today, especially the new fashion for books concerning active homosexuality. There are a great many of these now being widely praised which I think are of poor literary merit partly because they have a corrupting tendency . . .

Mr. Pitman was asked by Mr. Mervyn Griffith-Jones, for the prosecution, in what way the book had historic merit.

He replied: "Chiefly I would say that the eighteenth century was an age in which all kinds of mercenary relationships between men and women were part and parcel of the time—that men should have mistresses or should visit brothels was an ordinary routine thing.

"This book does give one not fantastic but on the whole accurate details of the whole financial arrangements and relationship between characters and the type of approach between men and women in that field of life. It was an important field of life in those days."

Mr. Hutchinson said that a fundamental misconception of the law by the prosecution in their approach was that they stated that readers who bought the book would not read it as a whole. What the law said was that one had to consider the book and not the motives of the people who in fact bought it . . .

"It matters not at all from the point of view of this Court what is the motive of anyone who buys it. That is entirely irrelevant, in my submission, to the considerations you have to bring to bear . . .

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Business start-ups show 3% rise on year

By Rodney Hobson

BUSINESS start-ups continue to rise and owner-managed businesses expect to take on more staff this year, two separate surveys show.

Barclays Bank says that the start-ups rose for the fourth consecutive year to 673,000 at the end of 1996, 3 per cent more than in 1995.

However, business closures rose 11 per cent, to 623,000, reflecting a growth in the numbers moving back to full-time employment from the ranks of the self-employed.

The move towards setting up part-time businesses has continued. David Lavarack, small business services director at Barclays, thinks that only two of every three start-ups are sole occupations, compared with three out of four in 1994. He expects the trend for start-ups to outweigh closures to continue.

The 1997 European business survey from Grant Thornton shows that owner-managed businesses in all parts of the UK expect to take on new staff this year, an optimistic view that easily beats responses in the rest of the European Union.

The positive response has shown the greatest improvement in Northern Ireland, where a net 33 per cent of small firms, four times the EU average, plan to expand staffing levels. East Anglia has also shown a dramatic upswing.

A net 25 per cent of UK owner-managed businesses took on more staff than last year, which was even more than was forecast at the start of the year.

"As self-assessment is all the rage I'm sending this to me!"

David Askham on how a decision to diversify paid off for a rural bakery

Flapjack innovation lights up Devon couple's Sunlit venture

Small bakers have a real struggle to survive against the cut-throat competition from the large supermarkets. That was certainly the experience of the Sunlit Bakery, a small country business in Ottery St Mary, Devon.

Phillip and Elizabeth Warnes, two professionals in the catering and bakery industry, bought the business ten years ago. Its roots could be traced to Victorian times. The business was run-down and comprised the bakery and two confectionery retail shops, one with a coffee shop based in Exmouth. Much of the old Ottery premises was empty and idle. However, the business soon responded to the Warneses' energetic new management style.

By 1992, however, Mr and Mrs Warnes began to realise that their traditional country business would not continue to produce year-on-year growth. The supermarkets were taking too much business from them. So, about three years ago, they decided to diversify and launched a parallel business called Devonvale Bakery.

The new business focused on producing an innovative line of flapjack and allied confectionery. Initially, it was intended to be an added sales attraction in their own shops but, much to their surprise, the well-produced and packaged product proved to be highly successful.

Not only did their customers like it, but it caught the attention of several wholesalers that helped to extend the marketing area. For example, a businessman on holiday from London was so impressed with the flapjack that he offered, and subsequently handled, the wholesale distribution of the product range throughout London and the Home Counties. The Devonvale range of products is now sold in many parts of the UK.

DAVID ASKHAM

Phillip and Elizabeth Warnes took the risk of investing in a line with no guarantee of success

Production of the new flapjack ranges tested the Warneses' managerial skills and presented several critical challenges. Whereas in the beginning flapjacks could be made cut and wrapped by hand, demand quickly increased to the point where some level of automation became essential. However, there were no affordable off-the-shelf solutions for all the tasks. For instance, the only confectionery-cutting machine came from Germany and cost more than £40,000. Mr Warnes explained: "Such an investment was way beyond our budget at that time. Furthermore, because we were unsure of the potential market for our new product, it was also too risky financially."

However, luck was on their side. At a trade fair Mr Warnes met a colleague who advised him to approach the Rural Development Commission based in Salisbury, Wiltshire. There he met Maurice Spalding, head of the productivity centre.

He listened to the requirement and developed a pneumatically powered cutting machine that was produced for the amazingly low sum of £7,000. This not only saved the situation, but avoided the bakery staff suffering repetitive strain injuries had they persevered with manual cutting methods. The subsequent increase in orders and production also enabled the bakery owners to create three more jobs.

Devonvale Bakery now contributes about half of gross income thus enabling the business to continue to grow and circumvent the adverse effects of the supermarkets.

Ottery St Mary once had eight productive bakeries. Now there is only one, which not only produces traditional crusty country bread for local area consumption, but also a range of fine confectionery that is being sold nationwide.

Now Mr and Mrs Warnes face a new challenge: how best to capitalise on their successful new venture. There is certainly scope for future growth and development.

Funding fears for small firms in country areas

FEARS are emerging that a loss of funding from the Rural Development Commission will severely hit small businesses in country areas (David Askham writes).

Maurice Spalding, head of the commission's productivity centre at Salisbury, Wiltshire, said that "limited resources would be extremely stretched".

The commission is winding up its business support and advisory services over the next 15 months. The productivity centre and sales promotion unit, which the RDC has financed for 15 years, will cease to receive funding from April next year. The centre helps businesses in rural development areas throughout England.

In addition to giving advice, it offers practical help to businesses in finding solutions to production difficulties. It gives consultations at the firms' own premises and supplies reports on projected costs. Experts at the centre develop prototype machinery. The cost of the aid given is often modest compared with the benefits gained. Businesses that have benefited have ranged from air conditioning to wargames.

Mr Spalding said manufacturers did not always recognise that labour-intensive processes could benefit from an analysis of the production methods and even if they did they found that solutions were too expensive to pursue. The services are available to 8,500 firms in designated areas covering about a third of rural England. Budget cuts and the transfer of resources to other projects mean the RDC views business services as no longer viable. Lord Shuttleworth, RDC chairman, said that the decision to cease funding the business side of the commission's work had not been easy. To soften the impact, he has received assurances from ministers that Business Links will give adequate priority to the needs of rural businesses, particularly those in the designated areas.

However, Mr Spalding said he had already found that trying to deal with Business Links was fraught with problems. He added: "There does not appear to be any focal point outside the Rural Development Commission for co-ordinating the type of work we do. Each Business Link seems to operate as a discrete entity. So our limited resources will be extremely stretched if we have to negotiate with each Business Link separately."

Mr Spalding is seeking alternative funding so that he does not have to abandon any of the existing 70 projects. Initially, he is seeking contacts with Business Links in the South of England.

Briefing

Government proposals for small companies to produce annual accounts in a standard format have been opposed by the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants. The association told the Department of Trade and Industry that the system would not mean the presentation of less information and would not reduce the amount of time involved. Peter Langard, association president, said the main objection was the assumption that the accounts of all small companies were so alike that they could be put into a standard format.

☐ A category for businesses with fewer than 50 employees is included in this year's Aim High awards run by Business in the Community and sponsored by BT. The awards reward educational partnerships between businesses and schools. Entry forms, from Business in the Community, 44 Baker Street, London WIM 1DH, must be returned by the end of this month.

☐ A free guide to help directors to plan for retirement has been produced by Kidsons Impey, the chartered accountant. Contact Joanna Pack on 0171-334 4778.

☐ The DTI has published *Export Winners — How the Best UK Companies are Winning in World Markets* to help newer exporters. It includes eight vital ingredients, experiences and views of 75 top exporting companies and detailed case studies. Copies are available from the Joint Export Promotion Directorate: 0171-215 4943.

☐ Small businesses in rural Wales are being encouraged to innovate in a £200,000 initiative by the Development Board for Rural Wales. Launched by the board as its contribution to the Wales regional technology plan funded by the European Union, the project will provide year-long training and consultancy programmes for businesses.

☐ An industrial co-operation centre has been set up in Brussels by the European Commission and the Japanese Government to stimulate trade between businesses in EU countries and Japan. For more information call 00 322 282 0040.

☐ A CD-Rom for small and medium-size companies that want to handle their own direct marketing will be launched by Dun & Bradstreet next month. It will be sold through PC retail outlets or direct from Dun & Bradstreet at Holmers Farm Way, High Wycombe, Bucks; price £79.

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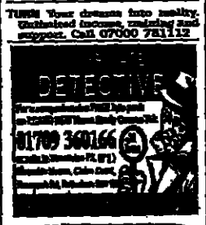

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Specification and tender documents are available from: Mairi Macmillan, Senior Accountant, Finance Department, Western Isles Council, Sandwick Road, Stornoway, Isle of Lewis HS1 2BW. Tel: 01851 706475. Tenders are returnable by 21st February, 1997.

THE VALUATION OFFICE
APPOINTMENT OF A MARKETING AND DISTRIBUTION CONTRACTOR FOR PROPERTY MARKET REPORT
The Valuation Office is an Executive Agency of the Inland Revenue, responsible for valuations of land and property throughout England, Wales and Scotland. Each Spring and Autumn the Valuation Office prepares a 'Property Market Report', a high-quality softback publication of A4 size and some 90 pages, containing detailed information and opinions of value of a wide range of land and property types.
The Valuation Office wishes to appoint a contractor to carry out the marketing and distribution of this publication, starting with the Spring 1997 copy: present sales are about 350 per issue. The contractor will be required to devise and carry out at his own expense a marketing strategy for the Property Market Report, and to take full responsibility for the distribution of the Report to subscribers. In return the contractor will be entitled to a distribution fee based on the volume of sales.
Any organisations wishing to be considered for appointment to this contract will be asked firstly to complete a questionnaire about their relevant experience, structure, financial status, etc. Successful applicants will then be invited to submit a formal tender. Questionnaires may be obtained by writing to:
Mr Colin Allan, Inland Revenue Contracts & Procurement Unit, Block 1, Government Buildings, Kingston By Pass, Hinchley Wood, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 5QR Telephone: 0181 268 4346 Facsimile: 0181 268 4358.
The latest date for return of completed questionnaires will be 3.00 p.m. on Friday 28th February 1997 - late applications will not be considered.

Whether work is alteration or demolition

Shimizu (UK) Ltd v Westminster City Council

Before Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Griffiths, Lord Lloyd of Berwick, Lord Cooke of Thorndon and Lord Hope of Craighead

[Speeches February 6]

Where a listed building had been demolished save for the facades, chimney-breasts and chimney-stacks, subsequent removal of the chimney-stacks would have constituted alteration of the listed building rather than demolition, and, accordingly, where listed building consent for the removal had been refused compensation was payable to the claimant owners.

The House of Lords so held, Lord Griffiths dissenting, when allowing an appeal by the claimants, Shimizu (UK) Ltd, from the majority decision of the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Millett and Sir Ralph Gibson, Lord Justice Russell dissenting) ([1995] 1 EGLR 167) allowing an appeal by the compensating local planning authority, Westminster City Council, by case stated from the decision of the Lands Tribunal (Mr T. Hoyes, FRICS) ([1994] 1 EGLR 214) that compensation was payable.

Section 1 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 provides:

"(5) In this Act 'listed building' means a building which is for the time being included in a list compiled or approved by the secretary of state under this section..."

Section 27 provides: "(1) This section [providing for compensation] shall have effect where — (a) an application is made for listed building consent for the alteration or extension of a listed building ... and (c) the secretary of state ... refuses such consent..."

Section 27 has been repealed by section 84(6) of and Schedule 19 to the Planning and Compensation Act 1991.

Mr John Cherryman, QC and Mr David Holgate for the claimants; Mr Michael Barnes, QC and Viscount Dilhorne for Westminster.

LORD HOPE said that the claimants owned a listed building, formerly Qantas House, on the corner of Old Bond Street and Piccadilly. Listed building consent had been granted to the former owners for the demolition of everything except the facades, chimney-breasts and chimney-stacks, which demolition had been carried out.

In June 1990 the claimants had sought consent for the removal of the chimney-breasts. The secretary of state had dismissed the claimants' appeal against a deemed refusal of consent by the compensating authority. They sought compensation.

The issue that the Lands Tribunal had been asked to decide had been one of fact, namely whether the removal of the chimney-breasts constituted the demolition or the alteration of a listed building within the meaning of the 1990 Act: if alteration, compensation would be payable, if demolition of a listed building or part of a listed building, it would not be.

To dispose of the appeal, it was necessary to examine more closely the definition of "listed building" in section 1(5) of the 1990 Act in the light of the definition of "building" in section 336(1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, which provided that "building", except in so far as the context otherwise required, included "any part of a building", that definition being extended to the listed buildings Act by section 91(2) of the principal Act.

Did the way in which the expression "listed building" was used in the 1990 Act show that, having regard to the way in which the expression "building" was used in that context, the controls of the Act were intended to be applied to the listed building seen as a whole, or could they be applied, in a way that made sense of the Act, to parts of the building only so that those parts were treated separately from the whole building?

Different answers might be given to the question whether the works were of alteration or of demolition depending on what the structure was to which the expression was applied, and to whether regard was to be had to the whole of the building or part of a building that had been listed or only to the part of the building that was to be affected by the works.

His Lordship had not found any provision in Part 1 of the listed buildings Act where it was not possible to make perfect sense of the expression "listed building" in its context without reading the word "building" as including any part of a listed building.

The various places in which "building" was used in that expression, when taken together with the definition given to it by section 1(5), suggested that the word should not be given its extended meaning where it appeared in the phrase "listed building".

It was sufficient to give "building" its extended meaning for the purposes of the 1990 Act that the secretary of state might include the whole or part of any building in the list.

Once the whole or any part of a building had been included in the list, however, it became a "listed building" for the purposes of the Act. The fact that only a part of a building had been included in the list then ceased to have any significance. It was the entry in the list that identified the structure that was thereafter to be referred to as the "listed building".

It followed that demolition of a part only of what was in the list as a listed building would not constitute demolition for the purposes of Part I of the 1990 Act unless the works to be carried out to the listed building as a whole were so substantial as to amount to a clearing of the whole site for redevelopment.

The Lands Tribunal had been entitled to hold on the facts that the proposed works for the removal of the chimney-breasts were works of alteration and not works of demolition.

LORD GRIFFITHS, dissenting, said that if the chimney-breasts had been removed as part of the original site clearance they would unarguably have been "demolished". If the claimants had been refused leave to demolish them at that stage, they would not have been entitled to compensation.

It was divorced from reality to regard what would have been demolition in the original site clearance as converted to "alteration" if carried out at a later stage.

Lord Browne-Wilkinson and Lord Lloyd agreed with Lord Hope and Lord Cooke delivered a concurring opinion.

Solicitors: Freshfields; Mr Colin T. Wilson, Westminster.

Writing-down allowance available for warehouse

Sarsfield (Inspector of Taxes) v Dixons Group plc and related appeals

Before Mr Justice Lightman

[Judgment January 30]

Expenditure incurred on a warehouse development used as a transport undertaking by a distribution company in a retailing group qualified for initial and writing-down allowances under sections 1 and 2 of the Capital Allowances Act 1968.

The warehouse was an industrial building within the meaning of section 7(1) of that Act and was not in use "for any purpose ancilliary to the purposes of" a retail shop so as to be disqualified from section 7(1) by the provisions of section 7(3) of the Act.

Mr Justice Lightman so held in a reserved judgment in the Chancery Division dismissing an appeal by the Crown from determinations by Finsbury general commissioners upholding appeals by way of cases stated by Dixons Group plc, Dixons Group Distribution Ltd, Dixons Investment Ltd and Dixons Stores Group Ltd from a tax inspector's refusal of their claims for group relief for their accounting periods ending in April and May 1982 that related to the expenditure they had incurred on a warehouse development in Stevenage.

Section 7 of the Capital Allowances Act 1968 provides: "(1) ... 'industrial building or structure' means a building or structure in use (b) for the purposes of a transport ... undertaking...".

Section 7(3), as amended by section 75(2) of the Finance Act 1982, provides: "Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this section, but subject to subsection (4) of this section 'industrial building or structure' does not include any building or structure in use ... for any purpose ancillary to the purposes of ... a retail shop..."

Those provisions now appear in section 18 of the Capital Allowances Act 1990.

Mr Michael Furness for the Crown; Mr Rex Bretten, QC and Mr Stephen Brandon, QC, for Dixons.

MR JUSTICE LIGHTMAN said that Dixons Stores Group Ltd carried on the trade of selling goods from shops throughout the United Kingdom. The warehouse on its completion in 1982 was used as its storage and distribution depot, Dixons Group Distribution Ltd maintaining its transport fleet there.

The only issue was whether the Dixon companies were disqualified from obtaining the benefit of tax allowances by reason of the application of section 7(3) of the 1968 Act. Was the warehouse a building in use for a purpose "ancilliary to the purposes of a retail shop"?

Whether the subsection applied turned on the answer to two questions of construction, namely:

1 Whether it was sufficient that the use of the warehouse was ancillary to the purposes of the Dixon group retail shops and

2 Whether use of the warehouse for the purposes of the distribution company's transport undertaking constituted use for a purpose ancillary to the purposes of the Dixon group retail shops.

The Crown had to establish that the answer to both was in the affirmative if it was to succeed on the appeal.

1 Ancillary to what retail shop?

The Crown contended that section 7(3) was to be construed as a free-standing provision and that so construed upon its face it extended to all buildings used for any purpose ancillary to the purposes of any retail shop or shops.

If the subsection was so construed and its application was not to be restricted by reference to any other provision in section 7, then that contention had to be correct.

But Dixons contended that section 7(3) was not a free-standing provision but was a gloss on section 7(1) and had to be construed accordingly. Buildings used for the purposes enumerated in section 7(3), Mr Bretten said, on their face lay outside those which fell within section 7(1). The purpose of the express exclusion of them by section 7(3), he said, could only signify that such buildings might, by reason of their function as adjuncts to the use of buildings used for a purpose within section 7(1) themselves fell within section 7(1).

An example given by Mr Bretten was an office used in connection with buildings used for any of the trades or businesses enumerated in section 7(1).

In short, he said, that subject to the operation of the proviso to section 7(3) and of section 7(4), the buildings or building whose use qualified for tax allowances under section 7(1) would not include the building or part of the building used for the purposes enumerated in section 7(3).

Mr Bretten was correct. Section 7(3) was concerned, and only concerned, with excluding from section 7(1) certain uses of buildings which would otherwise have fallen within section 7(1). The use of Dixons' retail shops did not qualify those shops for allowances under section 7(1).

Accordingly even if the use of the warehouse was for a purpose ancillary to the use of those shops, on its true construction section 7(3) had no application.

2 Meaning of ancillary

A building was used for a purpose which was ancillary to the purposes of a retail shop if its user was confined to furthering the purposes of the retail shops, that is, it was subservient and subordinate to retail selling.

The services provided by the warehouse were necessary for the retail shop. But that did not mean it was used for purpose ancillary to the shops. It was used by the distribution company for the purpose of carrying on a separate undertaking in its own right. The conduct of a separate independent undertaking was the antithesis of an ancillary activity.

The matter was to be viewed in the same light as if the distribution company was an unconnected entity using the warehouse to carry on its own trade. But however viewed, the use of the warehouse could not be viewed as ancillary to the purposes of the retail shops. Accordingly, Dixons succeeded on that ground also.

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue; Titmuss Sainer Dechert.

Private hospitals win zero-rating dispute

Commissioners of Customs and Excise v British United Provident Association Ltd
Same v Wellington Private Hospital Ltd
Same v St Martins Hospital

Before Lord Justice Kennedy, Lord Justice Millett and Lord Justice Hutchison

[Judgment January 23]

The supply of drugs and prostheses to private hospital in-patients constituted a separate supply of goods which qualified for zero-rating for the purposes of value-added tax and therefore the hospitals could recover the attributable input tax paid on those goods.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment allowing an appeal by the taxpayers, British United Provident Association Ltd, Wellington Private Hospital Ltd and St Martins Hospital, against the decision of Mr Justice Jowitt on April 26, 1995 to allow the appeals of the Commissioners of Customs and Excise against decisions of the London VAT Tribunal and to hold that the supply of drugs and prostheses to hospital in-patients was not zero-rated for VAT under the Value Added Tax Act 1983.

Mr Roderick Cordara, QC and Ms Perdita Cargill-Thompson for BUPA; Mr David Milne, QC and Mr Rupert Baldry for Wellington and St Martins Hospitals; Mr Kenneth Parker, QC, for the commissioners.

LORD JUSTICE MILLETT said that the question was whether (i) the provision of pharmaceutical supplies to in-patients in private hospitals and (ii) the supply and surgical fitting of prostheses, such as artificial hip joints or pacemakers, to such patients were zero-rated for VAT purposes. It was common ground that such supplies were exempt from VAT and that that did not exclude the possibility that they were also zero-rated.

The difference between exempt supplies and supplies which were zero-rated was that in the former case the supplier could not recover the attributable input tax on his purchases while in the latter case he could.

The commissioners had asserted that the supply of drugs to be administered to a patient in hospital was inseparable from the provision of medical care and formed an integral part of the patient's treatment. That meant that the drugs lost their identity as a separate supply of goods and merely formed a component element of a single composite supply of hospital and medical services, which were exempt but did not qualify for zero-rating.

The commissioners gave a similar ruling in respect of the supply and surgical fitting of prostheses.

His Lordship did not accept that in Case 353/85 Commission v United Kingdom [1988] STC 251) the European Court of Justice had conclusively characterised the supply of drugs and other items by a hospital in the course of hospital treatment as a single, composite supply of medical services and not as exempt supplies of goods as well as services.

It was only if one began by assuming that "hospital treatment" was a single supply that it was possible to conclude that the supply of drugs or prostheses was an integral part of that supply.

But the reality was that care and treatment in hospital involved multiple supplies by different suppliers; that it was difficult to see why the supply by the hospital of medication prescribed by a consultant should be regarded as ancillary to the accommodation or nursing services supplied by the hospital rather than to the services supplied by the consultant.

That conclusion was supported by a further consideration. In most cases, the actual drugs administered to the patient were charged to him and paid for in accordance with a price list, so that the total bill he paid at the end of his stay depended upon the type and quantity of the drugs supplied.

In such cases it was impossible to deny that the drugs in question formed the consideration for the payment, or that the supply of the drugs was physically and economically dissociable from the other items charged for.

It was to be observed that in all the cases which had previously come before the court, the question had been whether a single transaction for a single price should be properly apportioned into two or more supplies.

What the contracting parties had joined together, the commissioners could put asunder; but what the contracting parties had themselves separated, the commissioners could not join together.

It was common ground that it made no difference if the patient was charged for fixed price surgery. Accordingly, his Lordship would hold that in either case the supply of drugs and prostheses to hospital in-patients constituted a separate supply of goods for the purposes of VAT.

Lord Justice Hutchison gave a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Kennedy dissented.

Solicitors: Ernst & Young; Stephenson Harwood; Solicitor, Customs and Excise.

Test for expert evidence

Dover District Council v Sherred and Another

Before Lord Justice Evans, Lord Justice Swinton Thomas and Lord Justice Otton

[Judgment February 5]

A judge on appeal assessing whether a dwelling house was fit for human habitation should decide issues of fact in accordance with the evidence before him.

There were no special rules governing the receipt of expert evidence in such cases. The standard that he had to consider was that of the "ordinary user" raised in Morgan v Liverpool Corporation ([1927] 2 KB 131).

The Court of Appeal, Civil Division, so stated in a reserved judgment when dismissing an appeal by Dover City Council from an order of Judge Poulton at Dover County Court on June 30, 1995 to quash a notice of repair served under section 189 of the Housing Act 1985 on Peter William Sherred and John Bernard Tarling, trustees of 32 Brookfield Avenue.

Mr Andrew Arden, QC and Mr Anthony Callaway for the council; Mr Paul Morgan, QC and Mr David Hewitt for the trustees.

LORD JUSTICE EVANS said that Mr Arden had opened the appeal as one which raised a question of general importance, namely, whether the county court judge should adopt what he called a "commonsense, lay, factual approach" in cases of the present sort or whether such cases depended upon technical issues which the judge decided in accordance with the expert evidence and was not free, on those technical matters, to substitute his own opinion.

His Lordship would prefer to stick to the general rule that issues of fact were for the judge to decide in accordance with the evidence given before him.

Where expert evidence was admissible in order to enable the judge to reach a properly informed decision on a technical matter, then he could not set his own lay opinion against the expert evidence that he had heard.

But he was not bound to accept the evidence even of an expert witness, if there was a proper basis for rejecting it in the other evidence that he had heard, or the expert evidence was such that he did not believe it or for whatever reason was not convinced by it.

That was the effect of Patel v Mehtab ((1980) 5 HLR 78) and was wholly consistent with leading authorities such as McLoughlin v O'Brian ([1983] 1 AC 410, 432-3).

The appeal fell to be decided in accordance with general principles with two aspects raising issues of some general importance.

Standard to be applied

His Lordship agreed that the appropriate standard in accordance with the statutory language was objective, but it did not follow that the experience or even the wishes of current occupiers must necessarily be disregarded in assessing what the standards of ordinary user were: see Lord Atkin's test in Morgan (at p145).

The question was whether the approach to section 604(1) of the Housing Act 1985, as amended by section 165(1) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, still depended upon the standards of ordinary use, as defined by the evidence but taking account also of the judge's knowledge of contemporary affairs, and his Lordship would unhesitatingly answer that it did. The Atkin test of "ordinary user" still applied.

Status of expert evidence

His Lordship did not consider that there were special rules that governed the receipt of expert evidence in cases such as the present.

The challenge would fail.

Lord Justice Swinton Thomas and Lord Justice Otton agreed.

Solicitors: Miss Marie L Cumberland, Dover; Stilwell & Harby, Dover.

Soccer negligence

McCord v Swansea City A. F. C. Ltd and Another

A serious mistake or misjudgment by a football player which had caused damage and should not be described as reckless was capable of giving rise to liability in negligence.

Mr Justice Ian Kennedy so held on December 19 in allowing the application of Brian McCord against Swansea City A. F. C. Ltd and against the first defendant's team captain, John Cornforth, for damages for injuries sustained by him in a football match.

MR JUSTICE IAN KENNEDY said the second defendant was guilty of a serious mistake or misjudgment when he made a tackle.

There was a foul, and an intentional one in the linesman's interpretation of the rules in that the second defendant took a course which led to his kicking the plaintiff's leg.

His Lordship did not believe that it assisted him to label the action as reckless or rash. The second defendant's error was inconsistent and unmistakeably inconsistent with his taking reasonable care towards the plaintiff.

Scots Law Report

Respondents must lodge security

Balfour Beatty Ltd v Brinmoor Ltd and Others

Before Lord Abernethy

[Judgment December 31]

It was competent for a limited company to be ordered to find security for expenses at common law as a condition precedent to its being allowed to lodge answers to a petition against it and other named respondents.

Lord Abernethy, so held in the Outer House of the Court of Session when dismissing a preliminary objection to the competency of a motion on behalf of Balfour Beatty Ltd, in a petition at their instance, that the respondents, Brinmoor Ltd, be ordered to find security for expenses as a condition precedent of answering the petition.

Mr Craig Sandison for the petitioners; Mr Aidan O'Neill for the first respondents.

LORD ABERNETHY said that in moving the motion, the petitioners did not rely on section 726(2) of the Companies Act 1985 but on the common law. The respondents took a preliminary point of competency.

It had been submitted that in terms of company legislation going back with no material alteration for well over a century, it was provided that subject to tests laid down in the legislation, a limited company pursuer could be ordained to find security, but that there was no provision for ordaining a limited company defender to find such security. It was therefore incompetent to ordain a limited company defender to find such security.

Counsel for the petitioner had accepted that the legislation did not provide for a limited company defender to be ordained to find security. However, he submitted that the legislation did not either expressly or impliedly exclude the possibility of a limited company defender being ordained to find security at common law in accordance with the tests applicable at common law.

According to the ordinary rules of statutory construction, it must be taken that the common law route to security against a limited company defender was still open. There was nothing in the Scottish cases cited by the respondents which was contrary to his submission. Those cases were concerned with the meaning and extent of the statutory provisions only and not with the point which had to be decided in this case.

In his Lordship's opinion, the petitioners' submissions were well founded. It was accepted that the test set out in section 726(2) was different from, and less stringent than the test for ordaining a pursuer to find security for expenses at common law. The reasons had been explained by Sir Robert Megarry, Vice-Chancellor in Pearson v Naydler ([1977] 1 WLR 899, 904).

In DSQ Properties v Lotus Ltd [1987] 1 WLR 127, 131), the High Court had held that "the statutory jurisdiction has always been supplemented by the court's inherent jurisdiction", and had decided that, in principle, there was no reason why security could not be ordered at common law.

His Lordship regarded that case and the decision of the Court of Appeal in In re Unisoft (No 1) ([1993] BCLC 1292) as highly persuasive. Both were concerned with the position of plaintiffs, but in his Lordship's view that did not affect the point that the common law power was independent of the statutory power. That point had been made in Accidental & Marine Insurance Co v Mercati ((1866) LR 3 Eq 200, 202).

His Lordship was unable to find anything in the legislation or the decided cases which prevented a limited company defender being ordered to find security at common law. It was unusual but competent in relation to a natural person and in his Lordship's opinion was equally competent with regard to a limited company.

Law agents: Tods Murray, WS; Balfour & Manson.

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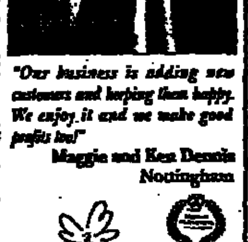

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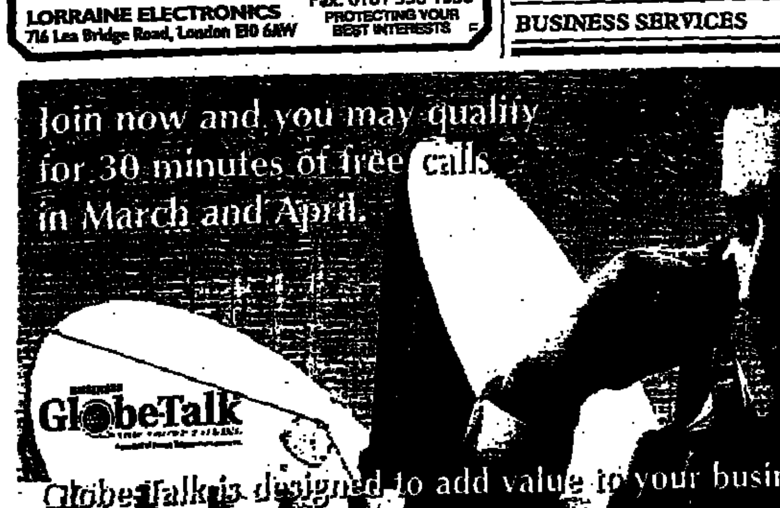

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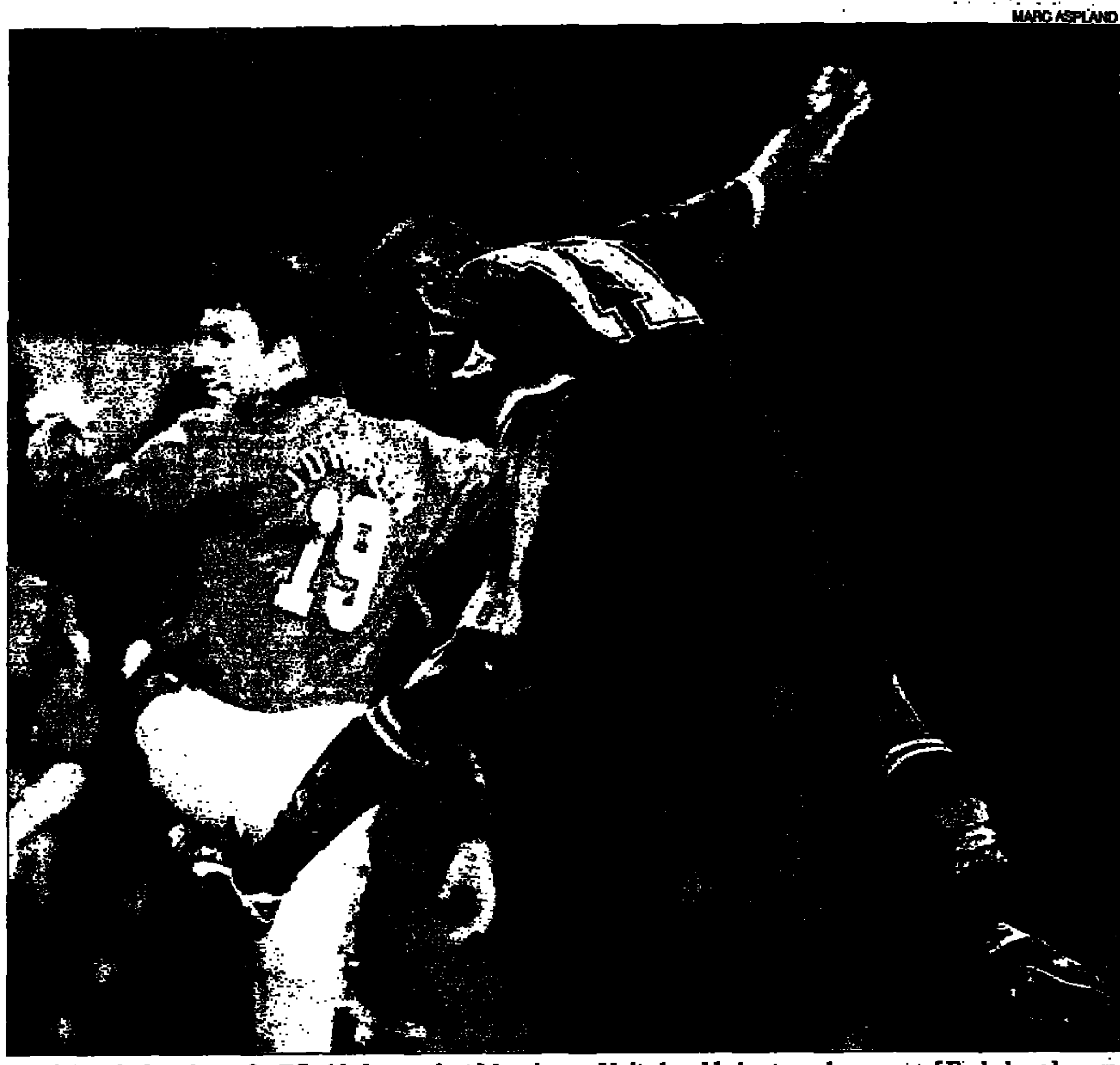
Leading selectors threaten to make it a two-horse race

THE TIMES ITF INTERACTIVE TEAM FOOTBALL

IN ASSOCIATION WITH Sky sports interactive

MARC ASPLAND



Gayle heads the winner for Wimbledon against Manchester United and helps to make a man of Fochabers happy

THE mystery is over. While reading his copy of *The Times* on February 4, it did not take long for one resident of Ickenham, Middlesex, to realise that the phantom Interactive Team Football winner, as advertised last week, was, in fact, himself. John Swirles can now be named, albeit a week in arrears. His team name, however, is still shrouded in mystery.

This week, a Scottish selector has won the £250 prize. Mr K. Gauld, of Fochabers, Morayshire, scored 40 points last week, with a team that contained only two English-based players, Beckham and Gayle.

That was a sound tactical move, with the Premiership being inactive because of the international match at Wembley tomorrow, although the FA Cup ties from Tuesday involving Premiership clubs did count. The pick of the bunch was Paul Ritchie, the Heart of Midlothian defender, who registered seven points and is the most valuable player in ITF for the week.

The overall leadership has swung back to Mr G. Foster, with his team Sophie And Sam, who moved two points ahead of John Hunt's Taunton D team. Foster and Hunt have waged a good battle for the top spot in recent weeks.

Indeed, those two selectors are just starting to break away from the chasing pack; they themselves would no doubt fall back on the football mantra that "there's still a long way to go", but it does seem that it is becoming a two-horse race for £50,000.

If your team could be doing better, you can move into the transfer market to improve your fortunes. You can use the ITF transfer system which allows you to change up to two players each week and to adjust your team if one of your players is actually transferred out of the FA Carling Premiership or Bell's Scottish League premier division.

You can make transfers only by telephone. Using a *Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone* (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone), call the **0891 866 968** line during the times given. From outside the United Kingdom, you must call **0044 990 200 668**.

When making a transfer, you must ensure that the team does not contain more than two individuals (two players or one player and a manager) from the same club.

If you are lagging behind the leading team selectors, the transfer system will be an appealing option to you in the chase for the prizes — the overall £50,000, monthly £1,000 or weekly £250.

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	IN		
42005 ...	Simo Valkari	Motherwell	£3.00m
	MOVED		
52104 ...	Paul Kitson (from Newcastle United)	West Ham United	£1.50m
	OUT		
21503	Paul Beesley	Leeds United	£0.50m

LOANED PLAYERS

S Howe (Nottingham Forest to Ipswich, one week); T Wright (Nottingham Forest to Manchester City, one week); K Scott (Tottenham to Norwich, one week); A Miller (Middlesbrough to Grimsby, two weeks); M Gabbiadini (Derby to Oxford United, three weeks); J Lee (Nottingham Forest to Charlton, three weeks)

Loan periods subject to fluctuation

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The prize for the Manager of the Week is £250 cash, plus a £250 Sports Gift Voucher for an amateur football team in your community — *as nominated by you*. The Manager of the Month will receive £1,000 cash.

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4. Do not choose more than two individuals (2 players or 1 player and 1 manager) from any one football club.
5. Once you have chosen your team, call the entry line, above, and follow these step-by-step instructions.

a) You must tap in (not speak) the full set of selections (using the five-digit player codes) for each of your 11 chosen players and your manager.

b) You must speak the name of your team (no more than 16 characters) your name, address, with postcode, and daytime telephone number.

c) Finally, you will be given a ten-digit personal identification number (PIN) at the end of the call. You must keep a note of this number and your chosen team as no postal notification will be sent.

See Sky Text, page 118

NB: Any new team will only score points on future games.

0891 calls cost 45p per minute cheap rate and 50p per minute at all other times. Your call will cost approximately double if made from a pay phone. In the event of there being more than one Manager of the Week or Month, the winner will be chosen at random. All ITF rules apply, a copy of which will be made available on request.

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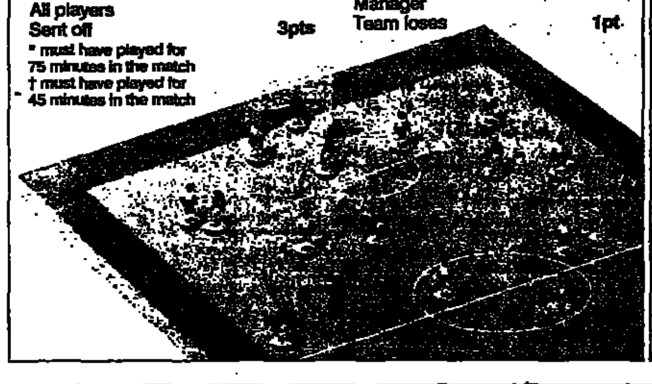
POINTS SCORED

Goalkeeper		**Striker**	
Keeps clean sheet*	4pts	Scores goal	2pts
Scores goal	3pts	**All players**	
Saves penalty	1pt	Appearance†	1pt
Full back/Central defender		Scores hat-trick	6pts
Keeps clean sheet*	3pts	**Manager**	
Scores goal	3pts	Team wins	3pts
Midfield player		Team draws	1pt
Keeps clean sheet*	1pt		
Scores goal	2pts		

POINTS DEDUCTED

Goalkeeper		Booked	1pt
Concedes goal	2pts	Concedes penalty	1pt
Full back/Central defender		Misses penalty	1pt
Concedes goal	1pt	Scores own goal	1pt
All players		**Manager**	
Sent off	3pts	Team loses	1pt

* must have played for 75 minutes in the match
† must have played for 45 minutes in the match



HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER IN ITF

Call 0891 866 968

If telephoning from outside the United Kingdom call 44 990 200 668.

You may make transfers only by telephone using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone). You will need your ten-digit selectors PIN, which you will have to tap in, not speak. Follow the simple instructions and tap in the five-digit codes of the players you are transferring.

You may only make transfers in one team per telephone call. If you have entered two teams and want to make transfers in both, you must make two separate calls.

You may transfer two (but no more than two) individuals (two players or one player and a manager) during a transfer week. A player being transferred out must be replaced by one from the same category and you must *keep to the team format of a goalkeeper, two full backs, two central defenders, four midfield players, two strikers* and a manager. You must not exceed the £35 million budget and have no more than two individuals from the same club. Incorrect transfers will be rejected and your team will remain in its previous form.

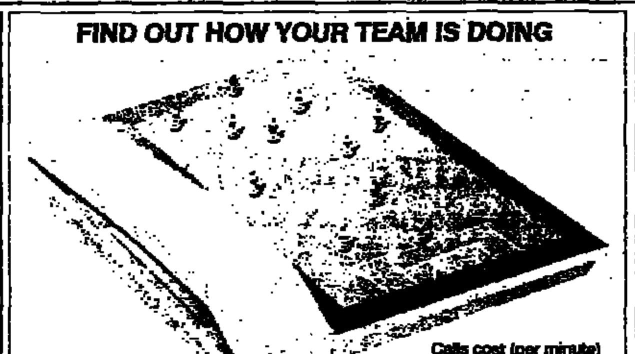
The transfer week runs from 00.01 on Tuesday to midnight the following Monday. *Transfers made before noon each day will become effective immediately. Transfers made after noon will become effective for matches played after noon on the following day.*

Your new player only starts to score points for you when his transfer is registered. The current score of the player transferred out remains part of your team score but he then ceases to score for you.

If a player or manager moves teams during the season, it may affect the composition of your team. You must adjust your team by using the transfer system to avoid missing out on points.

Calls will be charged at 45p per minute cheap rate, 50p per minute at other times. Calls made from public telephones may cost approximately twice as much.

FIND OUT HOW YOUR TEAM IS DOING



Calls cost (per minute) 45p cheap rate, 50p other times.

Call the ITF checkline on 0891 884 643
Outside UK: 44 990 100 343

Check your points total and your ranking. You need a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone) and your ten-digit selector's PIN. Calls made from public telephones may cost approximately twice as much.

THE LEADING 250 ENTRIES IN THE TIMES INTERACTIVE TEAM FOOTBALL

Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pts
1	Sophie And Sam	(G Foster)	563
2	John Hunt Taunton D	(J Hunt)	561
3	Beeston Celtic	(B McGivern)	545
4	Jones Boys Three	(M Jones)	544
5	John Hunt Taunton H	(J Hunt)	539
6	AB 4	(A Boyland)	538
7	Daggers	(V Cox)	537
8	Nobby	(J Brown)	535
9	Jones Boys Eight	(M Jones)	532
10	Brain's Team	(B Howes)	531
11	Nobby 33	(J Brown)	530
12	Nobby 4	(J Brown)	525
13=	Purple Rain	(B Gohil)	523
13=	Edmo Utd	(D Edmondson)	523
15	Nonchalont AFC 3	(R J Ward)	522
16=	Jabberwocky	(P A Amoss)	521
16=	Raj Is Back To Kill 5	(R Gohil)	521
16=	John Hunt Taunton E	(J Hunt)	521
19=	Icarus	(B Wells)	520
19=	John Hunt Taunton G	(J Hunt)	520
21	Nobby 11	(J Brown)	519
22=	Jones Boys One	(M L Jones)	517
22=	Nobby 32	(J Brown)	517
24	Pin Ups Two	(P Tusler)	516
25=	Where's Ray Gone?	(P Fromm)	515
25=	John Hunt Taunton F	(J Hunt)	515
25=	Nobby 21	(J Brown)	515
28	Nobby 29	(J Brown)	514
29=	Kinky Imports	(S Fraser)	512
29=	Bob's Boys 2	(R Calder)	512
29=	Turner's Earners 6	(P Turner)	512
32=	Storm	(P Mills)	510
32=	Inter The Stand	(M Ward)	510
32=	Bubwith Utd 5	(M Larcombe)	510
35=	Team C	(A Lone)	509
35=	Noah's Ark	(G P Dolan)	509
35=	Turner's Earners 5	(P Turner)	509
38	Brainbows United	(G Weiss)	508
39=	Joking	(P Fallen)	507
39=	Animals	(L Clark)	507
41=	Murray's Magicians	(M MacMillan)	504
41=	Jones Boys Sky	(M Jones)	504
41=	Hunter's Mob	(C Hunter)	504
44=	Bad Time Boys	(R Crook)	503
44=	Always Portugal 1	(V Guimaraes)	503
44=	A2	(K Farhall)	503
44=	John Hunt Taunton C	(J Hunt)	503
48	Gangsters	(A Lone)	502
49=	Bonky Boys	(R Crook)	501
49=	Uni Boys Utd 1	(B Gardiner)	501
49=	12 Angry Men	(D Cook)	501
52=	Raj Is Back To Kill 6	(R Gohil)	500
52=	Afc	(M Baber)	500
54=	Born Losers	(P Farkins)	498
54=	Nobby 22	(J Brown)	498
56=	Set Against Cys	(S Shipley)	497
56=	Tulip's Tops	(D Tulip)	497
56=	Turner's Earners 3	(P Turner)	497
56=	Abc	(M Baber)	497
60=	Partick Bilbao 3	(J Hamilton)	496
60=	Thom Foolery FC	(M Horan)	496
62	Nobby 14	(J Brown)	495
63=	Dour Rangers 3	(I Clayton)	494
63=	NST Monkstone	(J Staszkiewicz)	494
63=	Bob's Boys 4	(R Calder)	494
66=	Teddy Three	(B Bear)	493
66=	Crooky Boys	(R Crook)	493
66=	Bladerunners	(P Walters)	493
66=	Krystonia 2	(S Roberts)	493
66=	Caroline B	(A Luckhurst)	493
66=	Nobby J	(J Brown)	493
72	PJ Thistle	(R Newbould)	492
73=	Enid Four	(J Feather)	491
73=	BCFC 1998	(J Bithell)	491
73=	Nobby 5	(J Brown)	491
76=	Ball Watchers	(J Murray)	490
76=	Nobby 34	(J Brown)	490
78=	Club18-30 Tossa	(A Robson)	489
78=	Concrete Banana	(S Mingle)	489
80	JJB Sports	(A Bates)	488
81=	You're Not Very Well	(R Laskowski)	487
81=	A	(M Corless)	487
83=	Inter The Bin	(M Ward)	486
83=	Elsinore United	(P Leader)	486
85=	Inter The Wallet	(M Ward)	484
85=	Gestalt	(R Rowe)	484
85=	Bob's Boys 1	(R Calder)	484
85=	Nobby 23	(J Brown)	484
89	Nell Madrid	(N Ratcliffe)	483
90=	Layton's Lions 7	(R Layton)	482
90=	Enid 2	(J Hagger)	482
90=	Jan 2	(J Clayton)	482
90=	Scholes For Goals	(K Booth)	482
90=	Goaldiggers	(D Curzon)	482
95	DJS 2	(D Senton)	481
96=	Alancis FC	(A Stillano)	480
96=	Langton Longballs	(M Ward)	480
96=	Blythe Spartans	(T Blythe)	480
99=	Inter The Pub	(M Ward)	479
99=	Caroline D	(A Luckhurst)	479
99=	C U O K	(G Weiss)	479
99=	Nobby 20	(J Brown)	479
103=	Triple Top Ten	(P Bailey)	478
103=	I Hate Alan Hansen	(V Cox)	478
103=	Bob's Boys 5	(R Calder)	478
106=	It's About Revenge C	(R Gohil)	477
106=	Nobby 25	(J Brown)	477
106=	Nobby 12	(J Brown)	477
109=	Rock Bottom	(E O'Gorman)	476
109=	Billy No Mates XI	(M Bremner)	476
109=	Bob's Boys 3	(R Calder)	476
109=	Turner's Earners 4	(P Turner)	476
109=	Mars FC	(M Baber)	476
109=	John Hunt Taunton B	(J Hunt)	476
115=	Nobby 7	(J Brown)	475
115=	Garforth Seahawks	(I Doughty)	475
117=	PJB Rovers	(P J Butler)	474
117=	RKV 3	(C Vanezis)	474
117=	Irwins Best	(L Sampson)	474
120	Xpat Missiles	(M Jackson)	472
121=	Inter The Unknown	(P Barnett)	471
121=	Skyforest	(A Burton)	471
123=	Star Chamber	(M MacMillan)	470
123=	Trouble Shooters	(R Pritt)	470
123=	Def Con 3	(M Peck)	470
126=	Raj Is Back To Kill 7	(R Gohil)	469
126=	Midfield Magic	(J Pregon)	469
126=	Football Junkies	(J Melling)	469
126=	Airstir	(I Fyfe)	469
130=	No Midfield	(J B Portwood)	468
130=	Orvieto Classico	(J Bradshaw)	468
130=	Supersubs	(I Taylor)	468
130=	Botak United 1	(J Pull)	468
130=	Turner's Earners 1	(P Turner)	468
130=	Sky Rockets	(K Farhall)	468
130=	The Dummies 1	(D Shiels)	468
137=	4 4 2	(K Browne)	467
137=	Dynamo Hibs	(S Miller)	467
137=	March Pass	(M McGovern)	467
137=	Kingsbury Tn 1	(D F King)	467
141=	Caroline C	(S A Luckhurst)	466
141=	Totted Five	(E Kisby)	466
143=	Inter The Net	(M Ward)	465
143=	Roberts-Team 1	(M Roberts)	465
143=	Tor	(P Turner)	465
143=	John Hunt Taunton A	(J Hunt)	465
143=	Man City Free Zone	(D Ingham)	465
148=	The Great Dane	(K Booth)	464
148=	Agapanthus FC	(W Heslop)	464
148=	Paradox Eagles	(S Abbott)	464
148=	Infinity George	(M Robson)	464
148=	Sally In A Tiswas	(K James)	464
148=	Fortune Hunters	(K Farhall)	464
148=	A5	(K Farhall)	464
155=	Beyond Fault	(P Foster)	463
155=	Portus	(W Clarke)	463
155=	EJK's Unleashed	(E J Kitchen)	463
155=	Top Banana	(M Bottomley)	463
155=	Sid In A Carry On	(K James)	463
155=	Vat3	(K Howson)	463
161=	Raj Is Back To Kill 8	(R Gohil)	462
161=	Oct95-ITF Champ!	(M Sladden)	462
163=	Murray's Mates	(D Anderson)	461
163=	JS August Monthly 1	(J Swirles)	461
163=	Mean Machine	(P Ford)	461
163=	Caroline A	(A Luckhurst)	461
163=	Holstenites	(D Blair)	461
163=	Ebbey's 1st XI	(S Baldrick)	461
163=	Mmm Fantasy Leaguers	(M Madden)	461
163=	Bob Hope And No Hope	(T Blythe)	461
163=	Vat1	(K Howson)	461
172=	Simmo's Sonics	(M Sims)	460
172=	Bubwith Utd 3	(M Larcombe)	460
172=	Lynne's Lions	(L Hiorns)	460
172=	Misfits	(R Lockyer)	460
172=	JG18	(J W Goody)	460
177=	Ruud's Sexy Eleven	(T Eden)	459
177=	Come On You Rocks	(no name)	459
177=	Demolition Men	(J Murray)	459
177=	Jason's Boys Four	(J Gerring)	459
177=	Morgans Marauders	(G D Morgans)	459
177=	Robzteam2	(R Preston)	459
183=	AC Cambridge	(L Hoe)	458
183=	Fairfield Dons	(R Yates)	458
183=	Shack Attack	(R Shackleton)	458
183=	Inter Outers	(R Johnson)	458
183=	Tiree Tabletoppers	(M A Kennedy)	458
188=	Buggle Navvies	(D Banks)	457
188=	Daniels Selshans	(V Cox)	457
190=	Patel One	(P Patel)	456
190=	Old Cameronians	(R J Brown)	456
190=	Le Boeufeaters	(J Roebuck)	456
190=	Peanuts Team 1	(S Parnham)	456
190=	Dimlymo Moscow	(D Wilson)	456
190=	Yahboysir	(G Davidson)	456
190=	C	(B Poole)	456
197=	Don 3	(D Shuter)	455
197=	Bown's Boys XI	(P Bown)	455
197=	The Red Devils	(K Booth)	455
197=	Allington House	(G Batchelor)	455
197=	The Loggers	(C Wright)	455
197=	Hisham's Haggis	(H A Rahim)	455
197=	Will's Wanderers	(W Cheung)	455
197=	Ass	(T Mills)	455
197=	Lesley's Legmen	(L Michaelis)	455
206=	Kelly's Best	(P Linewry)	454
206=	Simba's Dream	(C A Kitchen)	454
206=	Wronco loves Sport	(J Eaton)	454
206=	Doppelgangereutd	(J Whaling)	454
206=	What Ford Splash	(N P Lewis)	454
206=	Thing Fish	(I Doughty)	454
206=	The Dansters	(C C Vevers)	454
213=	Tague's 1st XI	(C Tague)	453
213=	Lewis Boys A	(D Lewis)	453
213=	Kingkadze II	(M Dawe)	453
213=	Diplomatic Risk	(G Prichard)	453
213=	Sooty's Puppets II	(E G Ryan)	453
213=	Langaller Lads	(N Finch)	453
213=	Watermish FC	(M Kirkwood)	453
213=	Bonnet Bhoys	(A Sharpe)	453
213=	Clive From Down Under	(K James)	453
213=	Drabx5	(D Edbrookestainer)	453
223=	Grimmers Army	(S Gray)	451
223=	Flying Pigs	(M Macmillan)	451
223=	Das Boot	(D A Sutton)	451
223=	Sam Shanks	(S Shankar)	451
223=	Toby's Terrors 10	(P Wheatley)	451
223=	Rainbow Worriers	(G Weiss)	451
223=	Foxy	(M Fox)	451
230=	Bacardi Boys	(M Woodley)	450
230=	Porcelain Dogs	(A Ibison)	450
230=	Jack's Nightmare	(N J Lane)	450
230=	Fendon United	(E Cowen)	450
230=	The Instructors	(K Cunlon)	450
230=	Gauntlet FC	(C J Eldred)	450
230=	Bung Hol	(G Watson)	450
230=	Delilah	(I Kelson)	450
230=	Dragon	(D Pinch)	450
239=	Steve's Spacers	(S Brook)	449
239=	Winner	(M Baber)	449
239=	Gorgie Boys	(K Munro)	449
239=	Bow Utd	(K J Burns)	449
243=	Junction 19	(I Pigeon)	448
243=	Shot On Sight 2	(P Goldstraw)	448
243=	Cookie's Gunners	(S Cook)	448
243=	—	(M Reed)	448
243=	Www6	(C Wilde)	448
243=	Ajaxpool	(C Strachan)	448
243=	Farr Academicals	(A Kirkwood)	448
243=	12 Sick Parrots	(T Mayor)	448

The ITF players, their points and their values if you are considering the transfer option

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
10101	M Watt	Aberdeen	1.50	-3	-8
10102	N Walker	Aberdeen	1.00	0	-14
10201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00	-1	+33
10202	V Bartram	Arsenal	0.75	0	0
10203	J Lukic	Arsenal	0.75	0	-10
10301	M Bosnich	Aston Villa	3.50	0	+6
10302	M Oakes	Aston Villa	1.00	0	+19
10401	T Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	0	+2
10402	S Given	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	0	+4
10501	G Marshall	Celtic	3.50	0	-1
10502	S Kerr	Celtic	3.00	+5	+17
10601	D Kharine	Chelsea	2.50	0	+10
10602	K Hitchcock	Chelsea	2.00	0	-25
10603	F Grodas	Chelsea	3.00	0	+3
10701	S Ogrizovic	Coventry City	1.50	-1	-15
10702	J Filan	Coventry City	0.50	0	0
10801	M Taylor	Derby County	1.00	0	0
10802	R Hoult	Derby County	1.00	0	-12
10901	A Maxwell	Dundee United	0.50	0	+4
10902	L Key	Dundee United	0.50	0	-10
11001	I Westwater	Dunfermline	0.50	-5	-46
11101	N Southall	Everton	2.50	0	-22
11103	P Gerrard	Everton	2.50	0	-1
11201	G Rousset	Hearts	2.00	+5	-9
11301	J Leighton	Hibernian	1.50	+5	-20
11401	D Lekovic	Kilmarnock	1.00	-3	-37
11501	M Beeney	Leeds United	1.50	0	+5
11502	P Evans	Leeds United	0.25	0	0
11503	N Martyn	Leeds United	2.50	+5	+25
11601	K Poole	Leicester City	1.00	0	-6
11603	K Keller	Leicester City	1.00	0	-17
11701	D James	Liverpool	5.00	0	+23
11702	A Warner	Liverpool	0.50	0	0
11801	P Schmeichel	Manchester United	5.00	-1	+8
11802	R van der Gouw	Manchester United	1.00	0	+5
11901	G Walsh	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-20
11902	A Miller	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-23
12001	S Howie	Motherwell	1.50	-3	-23
12101	S Hislop	Newcastle United	4.00	0	-15
12102	P Srnicek	Newcastle United	3.00	0	0
12201	M Crossley	Nottingham Forest	2.50	0	-32
12202	A Fettis	Nottingham Forest	0.75	0	0
12203	T Wright	Nottingham Forest	0.75	0	0
12301	S Thomson	Raith Rovers	0.50	-3	-32
12401	A Goram	Rangers	5.00	+5	+35
12501	K Pressman	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00	0	+11
12502	M Clarke	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	0
12601	D Beasant	Southampton	1.00	0	-28
12602	N Moss	Southampton	0.25	0	+2
12604	M Taylor	Southampton	1.00	0	-2
12702	L Perez	Sunderland	0.50	0	-16
11803	A Coton	Sunderland	1.00	0	+9
12801	I Walker	Tottenham Hotspur	3.50	0	-12
12802	E Baardsen	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	0
12901	L Miklosko	West Ham United	2.00	0	-20
12902	S Mautone	West Ham United	0.50	0	+5
13001	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	1.00	+5	+3
13002	P Heald	Wimbledon	1.00	0	0

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
20101	S McKimmie	Aberdeen	2.00	0	+8
20201	L Dixon	Arsenal	3.00	0	+24
20202	N Winterburn	Arsenal	3.00	0	+29
20203	S Morrow	Arsenal	1.00	0	+1
20301	S Staunton	Aston Villa	3.00	0	+31
20302	A Wright	Aston Villa	3.00	0	+41
20303	G Charles	Aston Villa	2.50	0	0
20304	P King	Aston Villa	0.25	0	0
20305	F Nelson	Aston Villa	3.00	0	+28
20401	H Berg	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	0	+19
20402	G le Saux	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	0	+24
20403	J Kenna	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	0	+18
20404	G Croft	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	0	+2
20501	J McNamara	Celtic	3.00	+4	+27
20502	T McKinlay	Celtic	3.00	+4	+8
20601	D Petrescu	Chelsea	3.00	0	+13
20602	S Clarke	Chelsea	2.00	0	+6
20604	S Minto	Chelsea	1.00	0	+1
20701	D Burrows	Coventry City	1.50	0	-8
20703	B Borrows	Coventry City	1.00	0	-4
20704	M Hall	Coventry City	1.00	0	+12
20801	C Powell	Derby County	1.50	0	+9
20802	D Yates	Derby County	1.00	0	+4
20901	M Malpas	Dundee United	1.00	+4	+46
20902	M Perry	Dundee United	0.50	+4	+34
20903	N Duffy	Dundee United	0.50	0	+7
21001	C Miller	Dunfermline	0.25	0	-7
21002	A Tod	Dunfermline	0.25	-2	-8
21101	M Hottiger	Everton	2.50	0	-4
21102	A Hinchcliffe	Everton	2.00	0	+14
20603	T Phelan	Everton	2.00	0	-4
21103	E Barrett	Everton	1.50	0	+10
21201	G Locke	Hearts	2.00	+4	+12
21202	N Pointon	Hearts	1.00	+4	+10
21301	W Miller	Hibernian	1.00	+4	0
21302	A Dow	Hibernian	1.00	0	+12
21402	G MacPherson	Kilmarnock	0.50	-1	-15
21501	G Kelly	Leeds United	3.00	+4	+39
21502	A Dorigo	Leeds United	2.50	+4	+17
21503	P Beesley	Leeds United	0.50	0	+13
21504	G Halle	Leeds United	1.00	+3	+19
21601	M Whitlow	Leicester City	0.50	0	+6
21602	S Grayson	Leicester City	0.50	0	+8
21603	N Lewis	Leicester City	0.50	0	-3
21604	F Rolling	Leicester City	0.25	0	0
21701	R Jones	Liverpool	3.00	0	0
21702	S Harkness	Liverpool	1.50	0	0
21703	S I Bjornebye	Liverpool	0.50	0	+42
21801	D Irwin	Manchester United	4.00	0	+33
21802	G Neville	Manchester United	3.00	-1	+31
21803	P Neville	Manchester United	3.00	0	+2
21901	N Cox	Middlesbrough	2.50	0	-14
21903	C Morris	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-1
21904	C Fleming	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	-5
21905	C Blackmore	Middlesbrough	0.25	0	-1
21906	V Kinder	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-1
22002	S McMillan	Motherwell	0.50	0	+3
22101	W Barton	Newcastle United	3.00	0	-3
22102	S Watson	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+13
22103	R Elliott	Newcastle United	2.50	0	+2
22104	J Beresford	Newcastle United	2.50	0	+7
22201	S Pearce	Nottingham Forest	4.00	0	+11
22202	D Lyttle	Nottingham Forest	2.00	0	+2
22203	A I Haaland	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0	+13
22204	N Jerkan	Nottingham Forest	2.00	0	-4
22301	P Bonar	Raith Rovers	0.75	0	-8
22302	D Kirkwood	Raith Rovers	0.50	0	-5
22401	D Robertson	Rangers	2.50	+4	+30
22402	J Brown	Rangers	2.00	0	0
22501	I Nolan	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+27
22502	P Atherton	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+29
22503	S Nicol	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	0	+10
22504	D Stefanovic	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	0	+12
22505	L Briscoe	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	0
22601	J Dodd	Southampton	1.50	0	-5
22602	F Benali	Southampton	0.75	0	-10
22603	S Charlton	Southampton	0.75	0	-1
22701	D Kubicki	Sunderland	0.50	0	+17
22702	M Scott	Sunderland	0.50	0	+4
22703	G Hall	Sunderland	0.25	0	+8
22704	J Eriksson	Sunderland	1.50	0	-1
22801	D Austin	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	-4
22802	C Wilson	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	+15
22803	J Edinburgh	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	0	+6
22804	D Kerslake	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	0
22805	S Carr	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	0	-6
22901	J Dicks	West Ham United	4.00	0	+15
22902	T Breacker	West Ham United	1.00	0	+4
22903	K Rowland	West Ham United	1.00	0	-3
22904	M Bowen	West Ham United	1.00	0	+4
23001	B Thatcher	Wimbledon	1.50	0	+9
23002	A Kimble	Wimbledon	0.75	+4	+6
23003	K Cunningham	Wimbledon	0.75	+4	+20
23004	D Jupp	Wimbledon	0.75	0	-2
23006	C Perry	Wimbledon	0.25	+4	+31

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
30101	B Irvine	Aberdeen	2.00	0	-2
30102	C Woodthorpe	Aberdeen	1.50	0	-1
30103	A Kombouare	Aberdeen	2.50	-1	+2
30201	A Adams	Arsenal	4.00	0	+28
30202	S Bould	Arsenal	3.00	0	+32
30203	M Keown	Arsenal	3.00	0	+28
30205	S Marshall	Arsenal	1.00	0	+4
30301	G Southgate	Aston Villa	3.50	0	+23
30302	U Ehiogu	Aston Villa	3.00	0	+48
30304	C Tiler	Aston Villa	1.00	0	+19
30305	R Scimeca	Aston Villa	1.00	0	+23
30401	C Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	4.00	0	+26
30402	I Pearce	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	0
30403	C Coleman	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	-3
30404	N Marker	Blackburn Rovers	0.50	0	+2
30501	T Boyd	Celtic	3.00	0	+25
30502	M MacKay	Celtic	1.50	+4	+22
30503	A Stubbs	Celtic	3.50	+3	+14
30504	B O'Neil	Celtic	3.00	0	+2
30601	M Duberry	Chelsea	2.50	0	+1
30602	F Leboeuf	Chelsea	2.50	0	+22
30603	F Sinclair	Chelsea	2.00	0	-7
30604	D Lee	Chelsea	2.00	0	+3
30605	A Myers	Chelsea	1.50	0	+4
30606	E Johnsen	Chelsea	1.50	0	+10
30701	L Daish	Coventry City	2.00	0	+5
30702	R Shaw	Coventry City	1.50	0	+9
30704	G Breen	Coventry City	1.50	0	0
30705	A Evtushok	Coventry City	1.50	0	0
30801	I Stimac	Derby County	2.50	0	-5
30802	D Wassall	Derby County	1.00	0	0
30303	P McGrath	Derby County	2.50	0	+6
30803	J Laursen	Derby County	1.00	0	+14
30804	M Carbon	Derby County	0.50	0	-4
30901	S Pressley	Dundee United	1.00	+4	+48
31001	M Millar	Dunfermline	0.75	-2	-2
31002	I den Bieman	Dunfermline	0.75	-2	-17
31101	D Unsworth	Everton	2.50	0	+10
31102	D Watson	Everton	2.50	0	+7
31103	C Short	Everton	2.00	0	+4
31201	D McPherson	Hearts	1.00	+4	+21
31202	P Ritchie	Hearts	1.00	+7	+22
31301	J McLaughlin	Hibernian	0.50	+4	+4
30902	B Welsh	Hibernian	0.75	0	+7
31302	G Hunter	Hibernian	0.50	0	-1
32302	S Dennis	Hibernian	1.00	+4	-19
31401	M Reilly	Kilmarnock	1.00	-1	-5
31402	R Montgomerie	Kilmarnock	0.75	0	-1
31501	D Wetherall	Leeds United	2.50	0	+20
31502	R Jobson	Leeds United	1.00	0	+2
31503	L Radebe	Leeds United	1.00	0	+22
31504	J Pemberton	Leeds United	0.50	0	0
31505	R Molenaar	Leeds United	2.00	+4	+14
31601	S Walsh	Leicester City	1.00	0	+6
31602	J Watts	Leicester City	1.00	0	+11
31603	P Kaamark	Leicester City	0.50	0	+7
31604	S Prior	Leicester City	1.00	0	+8
31605	M Elliott	Leicester City	1.50	0	-2
31701	P Babb	Liverpool	3.50	0	+24
31703	M Wright	Liverpool	3.50	0	+27
31704	N Ruddock	Liverpool	3.00	0	+14
31705	D Matteo	Liverpool	1.00	0	+22
31706	B Kvarme	Liverpool	2.00	0	+1
31801	G Pallister	Manchester United	3.50	0	+9
31802	D May	Manchester United	3.00	0	+28
31803	R Johnsen	Manchester United	2.50	-1	+25
31901	N Pearson	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-9
31902	S Vickers	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-13
31903	D Whyte	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-14
31904	P Whelan	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	-4
31905	G Festa	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-3
32001	B Martin	Motherwell	1.50	-2	-6
32002	M van der Gaag	Motherwell	0.75	0	+3
32101	P Albert	Newcastle United	4.50	0	+14
32102	S Howey	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+7
32103	D Peacock	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+12
32201	C Cooper	Nottingham Forest	3.00	0	+5
32202	S Chettle	Nottingham Forest	2.50	0	+7
32203	S Blatherwick	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0	-5
32303	D Craig	Raith Rovers	0.50	-1	-1
32304	G Mitchell	Raith Rovers	0.50	0	0
32401	R Gough	Rangers	3.50	+4	+50
32402	A McLaren	Rangers	3.00	+4	+18
32403	J Bjorklund	Rangers	3.50	+4	+28
32404	G Petric	Rangers	2.50	0	+11
32501	J Newsome	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00	0	+10
32502	D Walker	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+29
32503	B Linighan	Sheffield Wednesday	0.25	0	0
32601	K Monkou	Southampton	1.50	0	-13
32602	A Neilson	Southampton	1.00	0	-2
32603	R Dryden	Southampton	0.50	0	-7
32604	C Lundekvam	Southampton	0.50	0	-14
32605	U van Gobbel	Southampton	1.50	0	-20
32701	A Melville	Sunderland	1.00	0	+23
32702	K Ball	Sunderland	1.00	0	+11
32703	R Ord	Sunderland	0.50	0	+22
32801	S Campbell	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	0	+11
31702	J Scales	Tottenham Hotspur	3.50	0	+1
32802	C Calderwood	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	0	+8
32803	G Mabbutt	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	0
32805	K Scott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	0
32806	S Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	-6
32807	R Vega	Tottenham Hotspur	3.00	0	-1
32901	S Bilic	West Ham United	2.50	0	+8
32902	M Rieper	West Ham United	2.50	0	+8
32903	S Potts	West Ham United	2.00	0	-2
32904	R Hall	West Ham United	1.50	0	0
32905	R Ferdinand	West Ham United	0.50	0	+4
33001	A Reeves	Wimbledon	1.00	0	0
33003	A Pearce	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0
33004	D Blackwell	Wimbledon	0.50	+4	+11
33005	B McAllister	Wimbledon	0.50	0	+14
33006	S Fitzgerald	Wimbledon	0.25	0	0

Sullivan's safe hands have been recognised by Scotland. But are you confident in picking him for your ITF team?

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
40101	D Windass	Aberdeen	3.00	-2	+32
40102	S Glass	Aberdeen	3.00	0	+14
40103	P Bernard	Aberdeen	2.50	0	+6
40104	I Kiriakov	Aberdeen	2.50	+1	+28
40105	T Tzvetanov	Aberdeen	0.50	0	+21
40201	D Platt	Arsenal	4.50	0	+24
40202	P Merson	Arsenal	4.00	0	+49
40203	R Parlour	Arsenal	2.00	+1	+21
40204	G Helder	Arsenal	1.50	0	0
40205	I Selley	Arsenal	0.50	0	0
40208	P Vieira	Arsenal	3.00	+1	+26
40209	R Garde	Arsenal	2.00	0	+4
40210	S Hughes	Arsenal	2.00	0	0
40301	M Draper	Aston Villa	4.00	0	+21
40302	A Townsend	Aston Villa	2.50	0	+37
40303	I Taylor	Aston Villa	2.50	0	+23
40304	G Farrelly	Aston Villa	1.00	0	0
40306	S Curcic	Aston Villa	3.50	0	+21
40401	J Wilcox	Blackburn Rovers	4.00	0	+30
40402	L Bohinen	Blackburn Rovers	3.50	0	+25
40403	G Flitcroft	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	+16
40404	W McKinlay	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	+10
40405	T Sherwood	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	+32
40406	P Warhurst	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	0	+3
40407	G Donis	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	0	+16
40408	S Ripley	Blackburn Rovers	1.00	0	+5
40409	M Holmes	Blackburn Rovers	0.75	0	0
40501	P McStay	Celtic	3.00	+2	+14
40502	A Thom	Celtic	2.50	0	+22
40503	S Donnelly	Celtic	2.50	0	+24
40504	P Grant	Celtic	1.50	0	+20
40505	P di Canio	Celtic	3.00	+4	+40
40506	D Hannah	Celtic	1.50	0	+6
40601	R Gullit	Chelsea	3.50	0	+9
40602	D Wise	Chelsea	3.00	0	+25
40604	C Burley	Chelsea	2.00	0	+25
40605	E Newton	Chelsea	2.00	0	+15
40607	D Rocastle	Chelsea	0.50	0	0
40608	R di Matteo	Chelsea	3.00	0	+39
40609	J Morris	Chelsea	2.00	0	0
40701	J Salako	Coventry City	2.50	0	+31
41501	G McAllister	Coventry City	5.50	+1	+43
40702	E Jess	Coventry City	2.00	+1	+21
40703	K Richardson	Coventry City	1.50	+1	+25
40704	P Telfer	Coventry City	1.50	+1	+24
40705	P Williams	Coventry City	1.50	+1	+23
40706	M Isaias	Coventry City	0.50	0	0
40707	W Boland	Coventry City	0.25	0	0
40708	M O'Neill	Coventry City	1.50	0	+1
40801	A Asanovic	Derby County	2.00	0	+34
40802	P Simpson	Derby County	1.50	0	+3
40803	R van der Laan	Derby County	1.50	0	+10
40804	D Powell	Derby County	1.00	0	+20
40805	S Flynn	Derby County	0.75	0	+12
40807	G Rowett	Derby County	0.50	0	+23
40809	C Dailly	Derby County	1.50	0	+24
40901	G McSwegan	Dundee United	2.00	+2	+25
40902	R Winters	Dundee United	1.50	0	+42
40903	G Johnson	Dundee United	1.00	0	0
42003	J Dolan	Dundee United	1.00	+2	+17
42303	J McInally	Dundee United	0.75	+2	+19
40904	D Bowman	Dundee United	0.75	0	+20
40905	A Benneker	Dundee United	0.50	0	+2
41001	H French	Dunfermline	1.00	+1	+34
41002	C Robertson	Dunfermline	1.00	0	+25
41003	A Smith	Dunfermline	0.75	+1	+39
41004	D Fleming	Dunfermline	0.50	0	+17
41102	G Speed	Everton	4.00	0	+53
41103	J Ebbrell	Everton	1.50	0	+7
41104	J Parkinson	Everton	1.50	0	+25
41106	A Grant	Everton	0.50	0	+11
41108	C Thomsen	Everton	2.00	0	+2
41202	A McManus	Hearts	1.50	0	+7
41203	S Fulton	Hearts	1.00	+2	+22
41302	P McGinlay	Hibernian	1.50	-1	+28
41303	G Love	Hibernian	0.75	0	+9
41305	I Cameron	Hibernian	0.75	0	+10
41401	A Mitchell	Kilmarnock	1.00	0	+23
41402	J McIntyre	Kilmarnock	1.00	+1	+23
41403	M Skilling	Kilmarnock	0.75	0	0
41404	J Lauchlan	Kilmarnock	0.50	0	+11
41502	L Bowyer	Leeds United	3.00	+1	+36
41503	A Gray	Leeds United	2.50	0	+1
41504	C Palmer	Leeds United	2.00	+2	+21
41505	R Wallace	Leeds United	1.50	+4	+27
41805	L Sharpe	Leeds United	3.50	0	+31
41506	I Harte	Leeds United	1.00	+2	+16
41507	M Ford	Leeds United	0.50	0	+19
41508	A Couzens	Leeds United	0.50	0	+8
41509	M Tinkler	Leeds United	0.50	0	+2
41510	M Jackson	Leeds United	1.00	+2	+6
41601	N Lennon	Leicester City	2.00	0	+22
41602	G Parker	Leicester City	2.00	0	+22
41603	S Taylor	Leicester City	2.00	0	+17
41604	J Lawrence	Leicester City	0.25	0	+1
40606	M Izzet	Leicester City	1.00	0	+33
41701	S McManaman	Liverpool	7.00	0	+41
41702	J McAteer	Liverpool	4.00	0	+34
41703	J Redknapp	Liverpool	4.00	0	+11
41704	J Barnes	Liverpool	3.00	0	+41
41705	M Thomas	Liverpool	2.50	0	+33
41706	M Kennedy	Liverpool	1.00	0	0
41707	P Berger	Liverpool	3.00	0	+23
41801	R Giggs	Manchester United	7.00	+1	+36
41802	R Keane	Manchester United	4.50	+1	+15
41803	D Beckham	Manchester United	4.00	+1	+45
41804	N Butt	Manchester United	3.50	0	+28
41806	B McClair	Manchester United	1.50	0	+7
41807	T Cooke	Manchester United	1.00	0	0
41808	B Thornley	Manchester United	1.00	0	+1
41809	S Davies	Manchester United	0.50	0	0
41810	J Cruyff	Manchester United	2.50	0	+15
41811	K Poborsky	Manchester United	4.00	+1	+19
41901	Emerson	Middlesbrough	3.50	0	+21
41902	Juninho	Middlesbrough	3.50	0	+35
41903	C Hignett	Middlesbrough	2.00	0	+12
41905	A Moore	Middlesbrough	1.00	0	+3
41906	R Mustoe	Middlesbrough	1.00	0	+23
41908	C Liddle	Middlesbrough	0.50	0	+6
41909	B Robson	Middlesbrough	0.50	0	+1
41910	P Stamp	Middlesbrough	0.50	0	+15
42001	C McCart	Motherwell	2.00	0	+13
42002	J Philliben	Motherwell	1.00	-2	+11
42004	J Hendry	Motherwell	0.75	0	+2
42101	D Ginola	Newcastle United	5.50	0	+19
42102	R Lee	Newcastle United	5.50	0	+36
42103	K Gillespie	Newcastle United	4.50	0	+21
42104	D Batty	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+21
42105	L Clark	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+17
42201	I Woan	Nottingham Forest	4.50	0	+30
42202	S Stone	Nottingham Forest	4.00	0	+2
42203	S Gemmill	Nottingham Forest	2.50	0	+6
42204	C Bart-Williams	Nottingham Forest	2.00	0	+17
42205	D Phillips	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0	+19
42301	T Rougier	Raith Rovers	2.00	+1	+28
42302	D Lennon	Raith Rovers	1.00	+1	+36
41304	A Millen	Raith Rovers	0.50	+1	+20
42304	S Thomson	Raith Rovers	0.50	0	+25
42401	P Gascoigne	Rangers	7.00	0	+58
42402	B Laudrup	Rangers	5.00	+4	+51
42403	S McCall	Rangers	2.00	0	+9
42404	T Steven	Rangers	1.50	0	+3
42405	J Albertz	Rangers	4.00	+4	+44
42501	R Blinker	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0	+12
42502	M Pembridge	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+37
42504	G Hyde	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+25
42506	M Williams	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	0
42507	R Jones	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	0
42508	S Oakes	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+7
42509	W Collins	Sheffield Wednesday	0.75	0	+9
42510	O Trustfull	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+13
42511	B Carbone	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00	0	+19
42601	J Magilton	Southampton	2.50	0	+27
42604	B Venison	Southampton	1.00	0	0
42606	D Hughes	Southampton	0.50	0	+1
42906	R Slater	Southampton	1.00	0	+7

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
42607	M Oakley	Southampton	0.50	0	+22
42608	P Tisdale	Southampton	0.50	0	0
42609	M Robinson	Southampton	0.25	0	+6
42610	G Potter	Southampton	0.50	0	+2
42611	E Berkovic	Southampton	1.00	0	+19
42701	M Gray	Sunderland	2.50	0	+29
42702	S Agnew	Sunderland	1.50	0	+16
42703	A Rae	Sunderland	1.50	0	+11
42704	P Bracewell	Sunderland	0.75	0	+32
42705	M Smith	Sunderland	1.00	0	+8
42801	D Anderton	Tottenham Hotspur	5.50	0	+8
42802	R Fox	Tottenham Hotspur	4.00	0	+23
42803	D Howells	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	+29
42804	J Dozzell	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	+2
42805	A Sinton	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	0	+30
42806	R Rosenthal	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	0	+1
42809	A Nielsen	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	0	+31
42902	I Bishop	West Ham United	2.00	0	+25
42903	M Hughes	West Ham United	2.00	0	+34
42904	D Williamson	West Ham United	1.50	0	+16
42905	J Moncur	West Ham United	1.50	0	+15
42907	S Lazaridis	West Ham United	0.25	0	+11
43001	R Earle	Wimbledon	4.00	+2	+48
43002	O Leonhardsen	Wimbledon	2.50	+2	+35
43003	M Gayle	Wimbledon	2.00	+4	+50
43004	V Jones	Wimbledon	1.50	+1	+27
43005	N Ardley	Wimbledon	0.50	0	+37
43006	S Castledine	Wimbledon	0.50	0	0
43007	P Fear	Wimbledon	0.25	0	+1

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
50101	S Booth	Aberdeen	4.50	0	+8
50102	D Shearer	Aberdeen	3.00	0	+6
50103	W Dodds	Aberdeen	5.00	+3	+31
50201	I Wright	Arsenal	7.00	+1	+53
50202	D Bergkamp	Arsenal	7.00	0	+26
50203	J Hartson	Arsenal	3.50	0	+11
50205	C Kiwomya	Arsenal	0.50	0	0
50301	D Yorke	Aston Villa	7.50	0	+56
50302	S Milosevic	Aston Villa	5.00	0	+29
50303	T Johnson	Aston Villa	4.00	0	+14
50304	J Joachim	Aston Villa	2.00	0	+8
50402	K Gallacher	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	0	+29
50404	C Sutton	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	+37
50405	G Fenton	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	+3
50406	N Gudmundsson	Blackburn Rovers	1.00	0	0
50501	P van Hooijdonk	Celtic	7.00	+1	+43
50502	J Cadete	Celtic	6.00	+3	+65
50601	G Vialli	Chelsea	5.00	0	+34
50602	M Hughes	Chelsea	4.00	0	+29
50605	M Stein	Chelsea	0.50	0	0
50606	G Zola	Chelsea	5.00	0	+28
50701	N Whelan	Coventry City	6.00	+3	+26
50702	D Dublin	Coventry City	5.00	0	+26
50703	P Ndlovu	Coventry City	3.00	0	+3
52105	D Huckerby	Coventry City	0.50	0	+20
50801	D Sturridge	Derby County	3.00	0	+25
50802	M Gabbiadini	Derby County	2.00	0	+7
50803	A Ward	Derby County	2.00	0	+18
50804	R Willems	Derby County	1.00	0	+17
50903	K Olafsson	Dundee United	3.00	+1	+2
51001	A Moore	Dunfermline	2.00	0	+12
51002	S Petrie	Dunfermline	2.00	+1	+21
51101	D Ferguson	Everton	6.00	0	+32
51901	N Barmby	Everton	4.00	0	+35
51102	G Stuart	Everton	3.00	0	+30
51104	P Rideout	Everton	2.00	0	+3
51105	M Branch	Everton	1.50	0	+7
51201	J Robertson	Hearts	3.50	0	+44
51202	C Cameron	Hearts	3.50	+1	+41
51203	D Beckford	Hearts	0.50	0	+4
51301	K Wright	Hibernian	3.00	0	+16
51302	D Jackson	Hibernian	3.00	0	+39
51401	P Wright	Kilmarnock	3.00	0	+37
51501	A Yeboah	Leeds United	7.00	0	0
51502	I Rush	Leeds United	3.50	0	+26
51504	B Deane	Leeds United	2.00	+1	+26
51601	S Claridge	Leicester City	2.50	0	+36
51602	E Heskey	Leicester City	2.00	0	+32
51603	M Robins	Leicester City	0.75	0	+1
51604	I Marshall	Leicester City	0.75	0	+22
51701	R Fowler	Liverpool	9.00	0	+50
51702	S Collymore	Liverpool	8.00	0	+39
51801	E Cantona	Manchester United	8.50	0	+36
51802	P Scholes	Manchester United	5.00	0	+17
51803	A Cole	Manchester United	4.50	+1	+6
51804	O G Solskjaer	Manchester United	3.00	0	+38
51905	F Ravanelli	Middlesbrough	5.00	0	+49
51906	M Beck	Middlesbrough	2.50	0	+17
52001	T Coyne	Motherwell	2.00	+1	+31
50902	O Coyle	Motherwell	2.00	+1	+15
52002	D Arnott	Motherwell	1.50	0	+17
50401	A Shearer	Newcastle United	10.0	0	+69
52101	L Ferdinand	Newcastle United	8.50	0	+46
52102	F Asprilla	Newcastle United	6.50	0	+8
52103	P Beardsley	Newcastle United	5.00	0	+29
52104	P Kitson	Newcastle United	1.50	0	+1
52201	D Saunders	Nottingham Forest	3.50	0	+31
52202	B Roy	Nottingham Forest	3.00	0	+9
52203	P McGregor	Nottingham Forest	1.50	0	0
52204	K Campbell	Nottingham Forest	1.50	0	+32
52205	J Lee	Nottingham Forest	1.50	0	+7
52206	S Howe	Nottingham Forest	0.50	0	0
52207	A Silenzi	Nottingham Forest	0.50	0	+1
52301	P Duffield	Raith Rovers	2.00	0	+18
52401	G Durie	Rangers	6.00	+2	+7
52402	E Andersen	Rangers	5.00	0	+35
52403	A McCoist	Rangers	5.00	0	+33
52404	P van Vossen	Rangers	6.00	0	0
52405	S Rozental	Rangers	4.00	0	+3
52501	D Hirst	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00	0	+12
52502	A Booth	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0	+41
52504	G Whittingham	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+29
52505	O Donaldson	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	0
52506	R Humphreys	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00	0	+14
52601	M le Tissier	Southampton	7.00	0	+31
52605	E Ostenstad	Southampton	2.00	0	+34
52701	P Stewart	Sunderland	1.00	0	+6
52702	C Russell	Sunderland	1.00	0	+18
52703	D Kelly	Sunderland	1.00	0	+16
52704	L Howey	Sunderland	0.50	0	+2
52705	M Bridges	Sunderland	0.50	0	+12
52708	N Quinn	Sunderland	3.00	0	+7
52801	E Sheringham	Tottenham Hotspur	8.00	0	+21
52802	C Armstrong	Tottenham Hotspur	7.00	0	+19
52803	R Allen	Tottenham Hotspur	0.75	0	+5
52804	S Iversen	Tottenham Hotspur	3.50	0	+13
52903	I Dowie	West Ham United	2.00	0	+13
52905	S Jones	West Ham United	1.50	0	+6
53001	D Holdsworth	Wimbledon	3.00	+1	+11
53002	E Ekoku	Wimbledon	3.00	+1	+39
53003	J Goodman	Wimbledon	1.50	0	+3
53004	J Euell	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0
53005	A Clarke	Wimbledon	0.75	0	+6
53006	M Harford	Wimbledon	0.50	0	0

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
60101	R Aitken	Aberdeen	2.50	+1	+25
60202	A Wenger	Arsenal	3.50	-1	+30
60301	B Little	Aston Villa	3.50	0	+34
60402	A Parkes	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	0	+16
60501	T Burns	Celtic	4.00	+3	+54
60601	R Gullit	Chelsea	2.50	0	+42
60702	G Strachan	Coventry City	1.00	+3	+13
60801	J Smith	Derby County	0.75	0	+22
62302	T McLean	Dundee United	0.75	+1	+41
61001	W Paton	Dunfermline	0.50	-1	+23
61101	J Royle	Everton	3.00	0	+23
61201	J Jefferies	Hearts	2.00	+3	+31
61302	J Duffy	Hibernian	1.00	+1	+4
61502	G Graham	Leeds United	2.00	+3	+21
61601	M O'Neill	Leicester City	0.50	0	+22
61701	R Evans	Liverpool	4.50	0	+47
61801	A Ferguson	Manchester United	5.00	-1	+50
61901	B Robson	Middlesbrough	2.00	0	+16
62001	A McLeish	Motherwell	1.50	+1	+14
62102	K Dalglish	Newcastle United	4.50	0	+5
62202	S Pearce	Nottingham Forest	2.00	0	-2
62303	I Munro	Raith Rovers	0.50	-1	+9
62401	W Smith	Rangers	5.00	+3	+62
62501	D Pleat	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+36
62601	G Souness	Southampton	0.50	0	+6
62701	P Reid	Sunderland	0.50	0	+19
62801	G Francis	Tottenham Hotspur	3.00	0	+19
62901	H Redknapp	West Ham United	2.00	0	+10
63001	J Kinnear	Wimbledon	1.00	+3	+41

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THE TIMES TODAY

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 11 1997

NEWS

Sotheby's reviews its methods

■ Sotheby's announced a far-reaching review of its procedures last night in response to allegations that it smuggled art treasures to Britain and rigged auctions.

The auction house has set up an independent panel to examine the company's practices, particularly its international dealings, and a new director has been appointed to look over rules and procedures. The review board will be advised by independent law firms in Britain and America ...... Pages 1, 17

Westminster IRA bomb fears

■ Access to the Palace of Westminster by the 4,000 staff working in the Lords and Commons has been tightened after a warning from security chiefs that the Houses of Parliament could be the target of an IRA bomb attack. Terrorists may have been carrying out covert surveillance operations .... Page 1

Clinton affair claim

Jim McDougal, the Clintons' Whitewater land deal partner, claims that his former wife, Susan, will not co-operate with prosecutors because she had an affair with the President .... Page 1

Lessons in divorce

School pupils in four local authority areas are to receive lessons from marriage guidance counsellors in a project which the organisers hope will help to cut the divorce rate .... Page 1

Cashpoint fraudster

A fraudster who taught himself electronics while in prison and made more than £100,000 by plundering automatic cash dispensers using a secret camera was jailed .... Page 3

The secret's out

Liam Gallagher of Oasis and the actress Patsy Kensit postponed their secret wedding on the grounds of "obsessive and intrusive media attention" .... Page 5

Simmering passion

Mrs Beeton, the Victorian cook and symbol of homely virtues, hid a more passionate side from her culinary followers, according to love letters .... Page 6

Jail health fears

The 30 most dangerous offenders held in "prisons within prisons" in England and Wales are to undergo mental health checks every three months .... Page 6

Car-free Manchester

Plans to rebuild the centre of Manchester as a traffic-free area of pavement cafés, winter gardens and riverside walks were given a £43 million boost by the Government .... Page 8

High Hubble hopes

The space shuttle *Discovery* carries the hopes of British scientists for a tricky mission to service the Hubble space telescope when it is launched today from Cape Canaveral .... Page 9

Hong Kong visit

Malcolm Rifkind's visit to Hong Kong will almost certainly be the last by a British Foreign Secretary before the colony reverts to Chinese sovereignty at midnight on June 30 .... Page 10

Stallone's bitter win

Sylvester Stallone has won an unmatched thirteenth consecutive nomination for the Worst Actor prize in this year's Golden Raspberry awards .... Page 11

Face of the Right

Bruno Mégret, deputy leader of the National Front, was being tipped as the face of the French far Right after his wife's municipal election victory ... Pages 12, 17

Cuban quest

Thirty Spanish peasants from a village near Salamanca, despairing bachelors to a man, are going to Havana in an attempt to find 30 Cuban brides .... Page 13

Ten thousand years in Provence

■ For ten thousand years Britons lived in the South of France to escape the coldest spell in a succession of Ice Ages. About 23,000 years ago the climate proved too gruelling for the hardy people who had inhabited Britain since Boxgrove Man took up residence half a million years ago and they fled south for a life of hunting and cave painting .... Page 1

SANTIAGO LYON

Albanian police forcing a demonstrator towards a fire in the street during clashes at the port of Vlore yesterday. Page 13

BUSINESS

Economy: The Chancellor's wish to avoid an increase in mortgage rates before the election received a boost from what he called "staggeringly low" industrial cost and price figures .... Page 25

Mortgages: Resistance to an interest rate rise has forced Northern Rock Building Society to cut its variable mortgage rate by 0.2 per cent .... Page 25

ScotRail: The last big unsold British Rail passenger franchise was awarded to the National Express Group .... Page 25

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index fell 0.1 points to close at 4307.7. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 97.2 to 97.0 after a rise from \$1.6236 to \$1.6331 but a fall from DM2.7155 to DM2.7051 ..... Page 28

Cricket: England's victory by an innings and 68 runs over New Zealand in the second Test has probably won a series and saved a leadership regime .... Page 48

Football: Millwall, the struggling second division club who are in administration, have dismissed the manager, Jimmy Nicholl, and 19 other staff members .... Page 48

Rugby union: England gather at Bisham Abbey amid concern that a string of injuries could affect their prospects against Ireland this weekend at senior and A team level .... Page 45

Tennis: Tim Henman was knocked out in the first round of the Dubai Open by the German Martin Sinner, a qualifier ranked No 183 in the world .... Page 45

Slow start: The Portuguese artist Paula Rego has had a long wait for recognition here. Now an impressive retrospective at the Tate in Liverpool showcases her disturbing work .... Page 40

Dream team: Elijah Moshinsky has returned to revive his *Lohengrin* at Covent Garden, and superb conducting and singing make this an unmissable show .... Page 41

Second opinion: Opening a new series, Bernard Levin finds his worst fears about *Palestrina*, at Covent Garden, confounded by a genius .... Page 41

Orient express: Allen Robertson talks to the effervescent Japanese-born dancer Tetsuya Kumakawa, a man hooked on speed, both on and off the stage .... Page 42

IN THE TIMES

■ INTERFACE
Airlines are gearing up to cater for passengers who use notebook computers

■ PROPERTY
The slums of the Gorbals in Glasgow have been reborn as an urban village

Partners all the way: "Corporate wives" are asking their husbands for a division of assets when their marriage breaks up .... Page 15

Wannabe authors: Advice to those who firmly believe they have a great novel inside them just waiting to get out .... Page 15

A sacrifice of love: "I believe that more women would choose adoption if it were explained in terms of likely advantages" .... Page 14

Empty promises: Why is nothing done about an adoption system that take years to sign over children to adoptive parents? .... Page 14

Court in a storm: People are using civil courts to litigate against those who criminal courts have been unable to convict .... Pages 33, 37

Iris Bentley spent 44 years campaigning for recognition of a gross miscarriage of justice Pages 33, 37

For democrats, Vitrolles is an historic defeat; for the National Front, an historic victory. On the Right, as on the Left, it would be wrong to see this as one battle lost among many. The election of Catherine Mégret shows that unemployment, badly managed immigration and candidates' failings led more and more voters to see the National Front as an acceptable solution —*Le Monde*

Preview: Diana, Princess of Wales, describes her trip to Angola. *Diary of a Princess* (BBC1, 10.45pm). **Review:** Lynne Truss on forgotten heroes of invention .... Page 47

Old party card

This is old Labour at work, distrustful of free markets and the causes of free markets — a party card, stamped with the minimum wage, the social chapter and a full Downing Street menu of beer and sandwiches .... Page 17

Dorrell drowning

It would be far better to stop the slide to a Scottish parliament now, rather than promising to push the boulder back up the *hill* .... Page 17

The French Front

The Parisian elite was content to leave the French young and poor to stand for years in snaking dole queues where hatreds easily bred. All politicians in France must now deal with the result .... Page 17

LIBBY PURVES

The *Brass Eye* trickery does not display much skill; nor much thought, artistry or effort. If there is a parallel, it is with the idle self-important decadence of "artists" who deal only in *objets trouvés*, plaster casts of dead bodies, excreta or cut-up cows .... Page 16

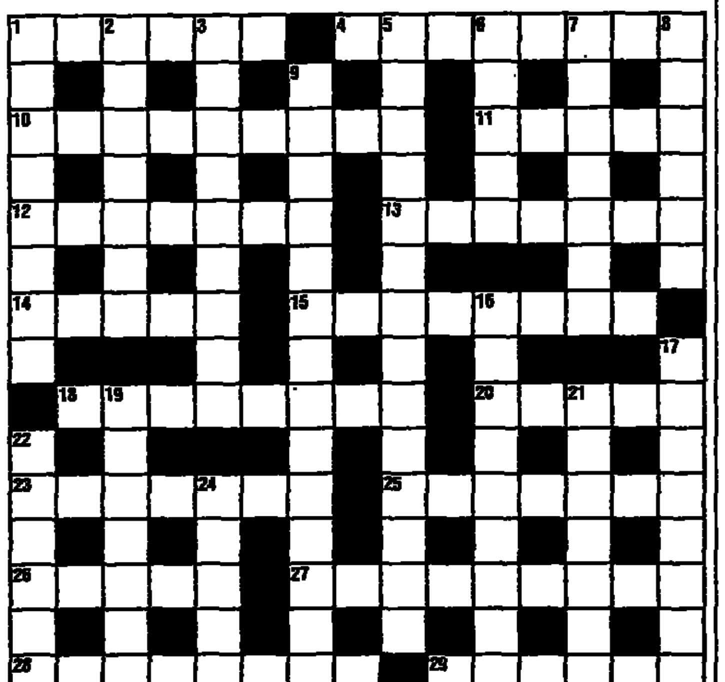
ANATOLE KALETSKY

Germans cannot have the world's strongest currency, the world's highest living standards and the world's most generous level of social protection, all at the same time. To put it another way, the Germans will have to slaughter some of their sacred cows to pull themselves out of their present economic morass .... Page 16

John Irwin, Keeper of the Indian Department at the V&A; **Brian Connolly**, singer with the pop group Sweet; **Ivo de Souza**, wartime RAF pilot; **Hannes Vahl**, former managing director of Siemens UK .... Page 17

The art trade; mandatory sentences; falling church attendances; Bloody Sunday; teaching standards; Holocaust denial; Pamela Harriman and Jane Digby; hay fever treatment .... Page 17

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,400



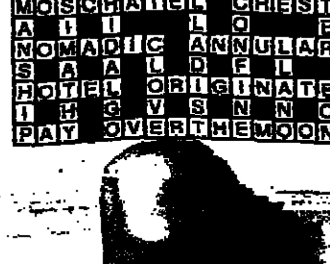
ACROSS

1 Fruit producing desire in first two to live (6).
4 Bird that's dead, terminally dead, was a parrot? (8).
10 South American may love limbo dancing inside (9).
11 Encounters a letter written backwards in manuscript (5).
12 Cheers sailor returning knocks (3-1-3).
13 South American city to North American is very wild (7).
14 Rodent that's shy, running back (5).
15 American serving unmatured gingerbread man, perhaps? (5-3).
18 Met with around *The Bull* at start of hunt? (8).
20 Sacred text mother mislaid in Indonesian island (5).
23 Terrible sort of fuel RAF used (7).
25 Extremely bold underclothing (7).
26 Window — opening one results in extra light (5).
27 Flooded in with current (9).
28 Ordered idle dogs to move from position (8).
29 Directions to trap very wild and fantastic beast (6).

DOWN

1 Sweet sound of alcohol on the rocks? (8).
2 Place in TV schedule set up with play's writer (7).
3 In reality, a wounding statement (4,5).
5 Car and cycle must take a turn here (4-10).
6 See how low you can sink here — it's close to hell (5).
7 Artist's link with *Merchant of Venice* (7).
8 Neglect issued novel (6).
9 Historic structure, such as Pisa's tower? (6,8).
16 Keeping stock of hard American prohibition, without alcohol (9).
17 Huge creature beginning to stimulate agitation in person (8).
19 Source of oak makes a difference in organs (7).
21 What's needed for Goethe at rehearsal? (7).
22 Provide way out of midlands town (6).
24 Essence of turning over a leaf (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,399



Times Two Crossword, page 48

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Torquay, Devon, 12C (54F); lowest day max: Stornoway, Outer Hebrides, 04C (39F); highest rainfall: Eskdalemuir, Dumfries & Galloway, 1.56in; highest sunshine: Shrewsbury, Shropshire, 5.0hr.

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☐ **General:** western parts of England and Wales will start the day with rain. Clear weather in the east will give way quickly to cloud and rain spreading from the west. Later, brighter showery weather will follow from the west. Eastern parts of Scotland and Northern Ireland will be bright at first. In the west, overcast weather with heavy wintry showers will give way to prolonged rain. Rain will spread to all but the north. Most places will be very windy.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, E England, Central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth:** clear, mainly dry, start. Cloud and rain spreading from west, heavy at times. Winds strong southwest or west. Chilly. Max 11C (52F).

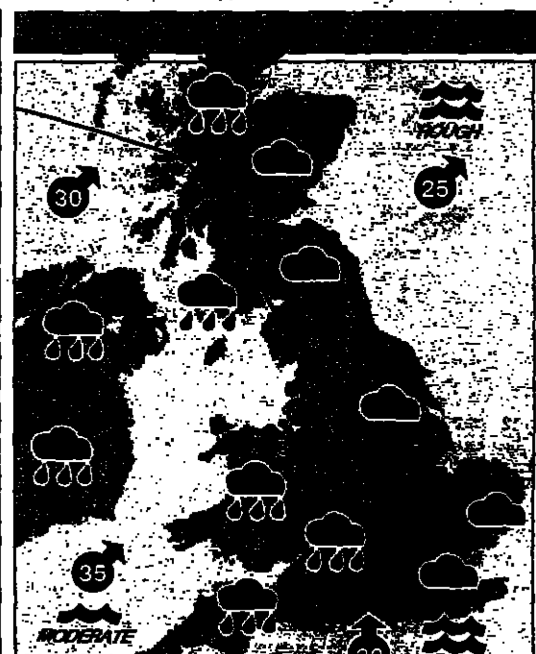
☐ **Central S England, E Midlands, W Midlands, NW England, Lake District, SW Scotland:** bright and dry at first. Wet by midday then brighter again later. Winds strong southerly, veering west. Chilly. Max 10C (50F).

☐ **Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales, N Wales, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland:** bright early, with isolated showers. Cloud and rain quickly spreading from west. Wet afternoon then becoming clearer later. Winds strong to gale south, veering southwest to west. Chilly. Max 10C (50F).

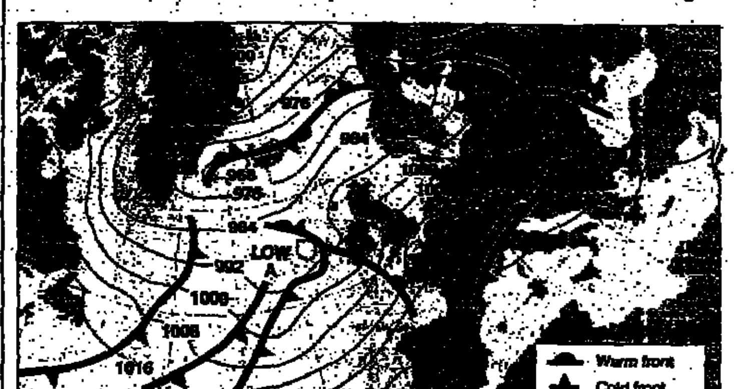
☐ **Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, NW Scotland:** showers, some prolonged, snow in places. Becoming clearer for a time then persistent cloud and rain later. Winds strong south, veering southwest to west. Chilly. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** bright or sunny intervals and showers, wintry in places. Winds strong southwest. Chilly. Max 7C (45F).

☐ **Outlook:** remaining unsettled.



Changes to chart below from noon: low A will fill as it sweeps towards Poland; low B will slowly fill in situ; high S will be static with central pressure unchanged



AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Anglesey	4.8	0.12	9	48	h	Leuchars	2.3	0.31	9	48	sh
Aspatria	2.7	0.60	9	48	h	Littlehmptn	1.9	0.22	10	50	sh
Aviemore	0.8	0.48	7	45	sn	London	0.8	X	11	52	r
Belfast	4.2	0.20	5	41	sn	Lowestoft	-	0.06	10	50	r
Birmingham	3.9	0.08	11	52	h	Manchester	4.0	0.02	11	52	sh
Bognor R	1.8	0.21	10	50	r	Margate	X				
Bournem'th	2.7	0.44	11	52	r	Minehead	4.0	0.56	11	52	h
Bristol	2.0	0.64	11	52	sh	Morecambe	3.0	0.59	10	50	t
Buxton	2.3	0.24	9	48	b	Newcastle	4.1	0.04	11	52	sl
Cardiff	2.7	0.32	10	50	r	Newquay	3.0	0.27	11	52	b
Clacton	0.8	0.04	9	48	r	Norwich	0.1	0.10	11	52	r
Colwyn Bay	4.9	0.19	11	52	b	Oxford	2.3	0.37	11	52	r
Cromer	0.3	0.13	11	52	r	Poole	2.1	0.48	11	52	r
Eastbourne	-	0.22	9	48	r	Prestatyn	X	0.09	10	50	sh
Edinburgh	X					Ross-o-wye	4.1	0.38	11	52	r
Eskdalemuir	1.6	1.56	7	45	h	Ryde	X				
Exmouth	2.7	0.39	12	54	h	Sandown	2.1	0.26	10	50	r
Falmouth	4.8	0.36	11	52	s	Saunton Snd	2.2	0.32	10	50	s
Fishguard	3.6	0.31	9	48	r	Shanklin	2.0	0.25	10	50	b
Folkestone	0.6	0.16	9	48	r	Shrewsbury	5.0	0.09	10	50	r
Glasgow	2.1	0.59	9	48	h	Skegness	2.4	0.10	10	50	r
Guernsey	0.9	0.48	11	52	r	Southport	4.6	0.13	10	50	sh
Hastings	0.8	0.19	9	48	r	Southsea	1.7	0.26	10	50	r
Hayling I	1.8	0.12	9	48	r	Stornoway	-	0.87	4	39	sn
Herne Bay	0.3	0.09	11	52	r	Swanage	2.4	0.35	10	50	r
Hove	0.7	X	9	48	sh	Teignmouth	4.4	0.39	12	54	b
Hunstanton	X	0.09	11	52	r	Tenby	3.8	0.46	9	48	sh
Isle of Man	4.4	0.18	8	46	sh	Tiree	0.6	0.65	9	48	sh
Jersey	0.3	0.21	10	50	r	Torquay	4.4	0.92	12	54	s
Kinloss	X					Tynemouth	-	0.05	10	50	sh
Leeds	3.5	0.07	12	54	r	Ventnor	2.5	0.18	9	48	r
Lerwick	0.3	0.18	8	46	r	Weymouth	2.8	0.40	9	48	b

ABROAD

Ajaccio	15	59	s	Corfu	14	57	s	Madrid	10	50	s	Rome	13	55	s
Akrotiri	15	59	s	C'phagn	3	37	c	Majorca	16	61	s	S Fr'sco	13	55	s
Alex'dria	19	66	f	Dublin	9	48	f	Malaga	16	61	s	S Paulo	19	66	h
Algiers	19	66	s	Dubrovnik	14	57	s	Malta	15	59	f	Salzburg	10	50	s
Amst'dm	10	50	s	Faro	17	63	s	Melb'rne	26	79	f	Santiago	27	81	s
Athens	14	57	s	Florence	9	48	f	Miami	24	75	f	Seoul	9	48	s
B Aires	31	88	s	Frankfurt	9	48	s	Milan	11	52	s	Sing'por	32	90	f
Bahrain	17	63	s	Funchal	16	61	s	Montreal	-10	14	s	St'kholm	1	34	sl
Bangkok	31	88	s	Geneva	7	45	s	Moscow	1	34	f	Strasb'rg	9	48	s
Barbados	28	82	f	Gibraltar	16	61	f	Munich	10	50	s	Sydney	35	95	s
Barcelona	13	55	s	Helsinki	-6	21	f	N Delhi	18	64	s	Tangier	17	63	s
Beirut	15	59	s	Hong K	16	61	f	N York	1	34	s	Tel Aviv	14	57	s
Belgrade	7	45	s	Innsbrck	7	45	s	Nairobi	29	84	s	Tenerife	20	68	s
Berlin	6	43	c	Istanbul	7	45	s	Naples	14	57	s	Tokyo	12	54	s
Bermuda	21	70	c	Jeddah	25	77	s	Nice	13	55	s	Toronto	-4	25	s
Biarritz	16	61	s	Jo'burg	23	73	f	Oslo	4	39	c	Tunis	16	61	c
Bordx'x	16	61	s	Karachi	X	X	X	Paris	9	48	s	Valencia	14	57	f
Brussels	11	52	c	L Angels	14	57	s	Peking	6	43	s	Vanc'ver	5	41	c
Budapst	-1	30	c	L Palmas	21	70	s	Perth	27	81	s	Venice	5	41	fg
Cairo	18	64	f	Le Tquet	10	50	s	Prague	4	39	c	Vienna	6	43	c
Cape Tn	X	X	X	Lisbon	13	55	s	Reykjavik	-1	30	s	Warsaw	5	41	s
Ch'church	X	X	X	Locarno	9	48	s	Rhodes	16	61	s	Wash'ton	3	37	c
Chicago	-2	28	sn	Luxembg	7	45	f	Rio de J	26	79	f	Wel'ngton	19	66	X
Cologne	10	50	c	Luxor	20	68	s	Riyadh	17	63	s	Zurich	9	48	s

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	04.12	7.7	16.42	7.6	Leith	05.03	5.8	17.22	5.9
Aberdeen	03.49	4.4	15.57	4.6	Liverpool	01.31	9.8	13.51	10.1
Avonmouth	09.49	14.3	22.08	13.7	Lowestoft	-	-	12.12	2.4
Belfast	01.27	3.5	13.43	3.7	Margate	02.20	5.0	14.57	4.8
Cardiff	09.35	13.1	21.54	12.6	Milford Haven	08.49	7.4	21.11	7.0
Devonport	08.24	5.8	20.48	5.4	Newquay	07.42	7.4	20.05	7.0
Dover	01.17	7.1	13.41	6.8	Oban	08.17	4.2	20.24	3.9
Dublin (N Wall)	01.55	4.2	14.09	4.5	Penzance	07.10	5.9	19.31	5.5
Falmouth	07.55	5.6	20.19	5.2	Portland	09.44	2.3	22.01	2.0
Greenock	02.59	3.5	15.13	3.9	Portsmouth	01.39	4.8	13.57	4.8
Harwich	02.06	4.3	14.33	4.2	Shoreham	01.37	6.8	13.56	6.5
Holyhead	00.36	5.7	12.54	6.1	Southampton	01.03	4.8	13.20	4.7
Hull (Albert D)	08.47	9.0	20.57	9.4	Swansea	08.52	10.1	21.14	9.5
Ilfracombe	08.36	9.2	20.55	9.4	Tees	05.17	5.6	18.27	5.7
King's Lynn	09.01	6.8	21.05	7.3	Walton-on-N	01.57	4.5	14.26	4.4

All times GMT. Heights in metres.

Sun rises: 7.22 am — Sun sets: 5.09 pm
Moon sets 10.34 pm — Moon rises 9.10 am
First quarter February 14

London 5.09 pm to 7.20 am
Bristol 5.18 pm to 7.30 am
Edinburgh 5.08 pm to 7.45 am
Manchester 5.12 pm to 7.34 am
Penzance 5.33 pm to 7.38 am

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BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 11 1997

National Express awarded ScotRail franchise

BY JONATHAN PRYNN
TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

SCOTRAIL, the last major unsold British Rail passenger franchise, was awarded to the National Express Group last night by John O'Brien, the franchising director.

The appointment of National Express as preferred bidder came hard on the heels of the award of the West Coast Main Line to Virgin on Friday. It means that all 25 franchises are almost certain to be in private hands by the election. Talks on the last unawarded franchise, Regional Railways Central, were continuing last night and an announcement is expected today or tomorrow.

North of the border, ScotRail operates all local and commuter (though not daytime) InterCity services over a 1,880 mile network, including the three picturesque Highland lines through remote areas of northern Scotland. It is also responsible for sleeper services from Euston station to Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Inverness and the famously reprieved West Highland sleeper to Fort William.

National Express fought off competition from Stagecoach, the Scottish-based bus company, and from a management buyout team. The bid from National Express, which has many coach services north of the border, is sure to face intense scrutiny from the competition authorities. The company is thought to have already held detailed talks with the Office of Fair Trading.

ScotRail is National Express's fourth rail franchise. The company, which also operates buses and coaches, already runs Gatwick Express, Midland Mainline and North London Railways.

Few details of National Express's bid were available last night but it is thought to include plans for new trains and proposals for developing the huge tourist potential of the West Highland, Far North and Kyle of Lochalsh lines.

In the year to March 31, 1995, ScotRail earned revenue of £86 million, down slightly on 1994, and carried 49 million passengers. The subsidy last year was £251 million and it had 3,977 employees.

The ScotRail announcement came as details emerged of plans for the Regional Railways North East network from the MTL bus company, which was formally awarded the franchise yesterday. MTL promised commuters in the North of England more regular train services.

The former British Rail passenger network, the twenty-first of 25 franchises to change hands, has been handed to MTL for seven years and one month. All but two of the 25 domestic franchises have now been transferred to the private sector or have had preferred bidders announced by Mr O'Brien.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	4307.7	(-0.1)
Yield	3.60%	
FTSE All share	2100.56	(+0.68)
Nikkei	18181.17	(+314.13)
New York:		
Dow Jones	6848.88	(-8.92)*
S&P Composite	790.24	(+0.68)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5 5/16%*	(5 1/16%)
Long Bond	97 15/32*	(97 11/32)
Yield	6.70%*	(6.71%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6 1/4%	(6 7/32%)
Liffe long gilt future (Mar)	112 24/32	(113 7/32)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6387*	(1.6304)
London:		
$	1.6334	(1.6235)
DM	2.7058	(2.7147)
FFr	9.1316	(9.1598)
SFr	2.3325	(2.3409)
Yen	200.63	(202.37)
£ Index	97.0	(97.2)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.6560*	(1.6610)
FFr	5.5900*	(5.6010)
SFr	1.4257*	(1.4295)
Yen	122.73*	(123.13)
$ Index	102.7	(103.5)

Tokyo close Yen 123.20

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Apr)	$20.25	($20.65)

GOLD

London close	$341.15	($340.45)

* denotes midday trading price

Output prices give rate hope to Chancellor

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS EDITOR

THE Chancellor's desire to avoid an increase in mortgage rates before the election was given a boost yesterday by what he called "staggeringly low" figures on industrial costs and prices.

British output or factory gate prices rose only 0.2 per cent in January, according to the Office for National Statistics. This was much better than the increase of about 0.5 per cent expected by the City and it gave a year-on-year rise of just 1.5 per cent, the lowest level since October 1986.

Input prices, paid by industry for its fuel and raw materials, fell 0.5 per cent, leaving prices 6.2 per cent lower than a year ago. Sterling's rise appears to be damping down import prices and the upward effect of last year's upward spike in crude oil prices is now fading.

Jonathan Loynes, of HSBC Markets, said the figures were particularly encouraging because January is the month when many manufacturers revise their list prices. He said: "Even a sharp rebound in retail margins as consumer spending strengthens will not prevent underlying inflation from falling sharply this year. Accordingly, these numbers provide further vindication for the Chancellor's decision to leave interest rates on hold."

Separate figures published by the British Retail Consortium yesterday showed that high street spending revived modestly in January compared with December's disappointing showing. The value of retail sales rose 4.9 per cent compared with a year earlier. The annual rise recorded for December was 4.3 per cent.

Andrew Sentance, chief economic adviser to the BRC, said: "Retail spending is not growing so strongly that it poses an inflationary threat. Indeed, inflation is likely to fall back in the short term because of the influence of a strong pound."

The Chancellor has resisted the Bank of England's demands for a rise in interest rates for the past three months, arguing that the pound's rise is a very deflationary force for the economy. Yesterday's producer prices figures are likely to strengthen his hand in what is becoming an increasingly public and tense dispute with the Bank which tomorrow publishes its latest *Inflation Report*. This is expected to emphasise the need to raise rates if the Government is to hit its inflation target.

The pound showed little reaction to yesterday's prices figures as attention in the currency markets focused on the dollar after the Group of Seven meeting in Berlin at the weekend. Sterling's effective index against a basket of currencies slipped a little to close at 97.0 from 97.2 on Friday. It lost a pfennig against the mark to DM2.7051 but gained a cent against the dollar.

The G7 said in a statement after Saturday's meeting that the dollar's upward correction over the past two years was now complete and suggested that it would now like to see some stability. The dollar came off its recent highs, but the downward reaction was limited and temporary. Hans Tietmeyer, President of the Bundesbank, expressed satisfaction with this, saying that the markets had reacted "appropriately".

In late European trading, the dollar was quoted at DM1.6560 compared with its low in the Far East of DM1.6350. Against the yen, it stood at Y122.75, having dropped as low as Y120.40 in overnight trading. Many dealers said that the dollar will remain in demand.

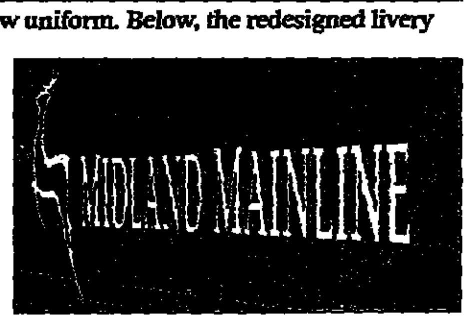
Spending over target, page 26
Janet Bush, page 29

CHRIS HARRIS

Smoking: Nichola Mears models her new uniform. Below, the redesigned livery

Mainline colours

MIDLAND MAINLINE, the InterCity rail company operating high-speed services between St Pancras station, London, and cities such as Leeds, Sheffield, Leicester and Nottingham, unveiled its new livery and staff uniforms yesterday. A ten-year franchise for the Midland main line was awarded to the National Express Group last April.



SE inquiry did not talk to key Cray directors

BY PAUL DURMAN

THE Stock Exchange investigation that cleared Cray Electronics of issuing misleading statements to the stock market was completed without speaking to key members of the senior management of Cray Communications.

The inquiry did not interview former Cray Comms directors who have alleged that Jon Richards, group chief executive, told them how Cray would cover up poor results from the data communications arm. Simon Pearson, former engineering director at Cray Comms, yesterday joined three former directors in describing a pre-results meeting in January 1995 at which they claim Mr Richards said Cray would inflate profits for Comms.

Cray Comms was responsible for about 80 per cent of group profits. The difficulties that overtook it in 1994 and 1995 led to a collapse in profits that caused Cray's shareholders to lose more than £200 million of their investment.

Former Cray Comms directors claim that the group's public statements bore little relation to the reality of the problems faced by its largest business.

SBC Warburg, financial adviser to Cray (or Anite, as it is now called), said the Stock Exchange inquiry had "extremely full information ... loads of management accounts and board meeting minutes". It said the Exchange could not be expected to speak to "junior employees".

The Exchange also did not speak to Ray Piggott, Cray Comms' former chief executive — even though Mr Piggott contacted the Exchange of his own volition.

Tim Jackaman, a company spokesman, said that as far as Anite was concerned "nothing that you have written changes anything".

Mother of three sued by Coutts

COUTTS, bankers to the Queen, is trying to bankrupt a mother of three because of her husband's debts (Caroline Merrell writes).

The bank, believed to have waived £500,000 of charges on the Duchess of York's £4.2 million overdraft, is taking Rebecca Mills of Chepstow, Monmouthshire, to court on Thursday.

Mrs Mills, 41, who is on income support, could end up losing her home, worth about £70,000. Seven years ago she signed over the house, in which she now lives, to her husband's business, along with another property. The business collapsed with debts to Coutts of £172,000.

Mrs Mills is now separated from Sebastian Mills, her husband, who is living abroad. She said that there was already an outstanding debt to Barclays on the property. Coutts declined to comment.

Robinson sells shares to pay for house repairs

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

GERRY ROBINSON, the chairman of Granada, yesterday realised £457,000 from selling shares in the company as he raised funds to give his house in the Irish Republic a fresh lick of paint.

Mr Robinson sold 50,000 shares at £9.14 to help to pay for repairs to the house, including renovating a roof.

The shares were part of a personal holding built up since he joined Granada, initially as chief executive, in 1991.

He was previously chief executive of Compass, the catering company, where he built up a stake valued at £3 million after leading a £160 million management buyout from Grand Metropolitan in 1986.

After the sale Mr Robinson continues to hold about 300,000 shares with a market value of £2.75 million. He also holds a total of 1.2 million share options at prices ranging from 184p to 859.5p.

The current potential profit on these options is £4.35 million, although only 407,000 at an option price of £1.84 are currently exercisable.

Granada recently ended its option scheme in favour of long-term incentive plan. Last year Mr Robinson received a total salary of £728,000.

Granada shares yesterday closed down 17½p at 895p.

Robinson: £457,000 gain

Solid base rate makes Rock cut cost of loan

BY GAVIN LUMSDEN

THE Chancellor's resistance to an interest rate rise before the election has forced the Northern Rock Building Society to lower its variable mortgage rate by 0.2 per cent.

The cut, to 7.29 per cent from March 15, brings the society into line with most other lenders and affects more than 300,000 borrowers.

In December, the Northern Rock announced a 0.5 per cent rise after the Chancellor increased rates by 0.25 per cent.

The society had anticipated a further rate rise, but concedes that this is now unlikely.

Adam Applegarth, director, said: "If the situation had gone on much longer, we would have started to become uncompetitive...Government policy on interest rates is always difficult to second-guess and this has become even harder as policy seems to be influenced by political considerations more than economics."

People who have had loans for more than seven years keep a 6.99 per cent loyalty rate.

Lanica shares suspended

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM

SHARES in Lanica Trust, the investment vehicle of Andrew Regan, the entrepreneur, were suspended yesterday as the company confirmed its involvement in plans to buy a large slice of Britain's two main co-operative retailers.

Co-operative Retail Services and the larger Co-operative Wholesale Services are both believed to have received faxes yesterday from a company named Galileo, which is believed to be the investment vehicle set up by Lanica and other City investors to make the acquisitions. Mr Regan is believed to want to raise up to £500 million to buy a range of CWS and CRS's non-food retailing businesses, ranging from funeral services to opticians. The faxes suggest that the plans are not yet finalised.

CRS and CWS seemed unlikely to co-operate with Mr Regan. CWS wrote yesterday to reassure members that it "has no plans to dispose of CWS businesses or assets to him (Mr Regan) or his investment company". Harry Moore, CRS chief executive, said: "CRS is very sceptical about this story, and, as we understand that Andrew Regan is about to go on holiday, we must assume that it cannot be an urgent matter for him either."

A spokesman for Mr Regan confirmed that he is due to go on holiday today. The Stock Exchange is believed to be investigating the leak to a Sunday newspaper of the intended approach, and the suspension of Lanica's shares, at £19.50, may be reconsidered.

Pennington, page 27

JOHN BETJEMAN.
Author of *Summoned by Bells.*

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Small firms' leaders fight red tape with Labour

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

BUSINESS leaders are to hold talks with Labour on new ways of cutting red tape.

Leaders of Britain's main business bodies with an interest in small firms have agreed to meet Labour to begin work on how regulators and inspectors at local level can work with business to reduce burdens on small companies.

Officials of the Federation of Small Business, the Forum of Private Business, the British Chambers of Commerce, the Institute of Directors and the Confederation of British Industry will join Labour leaders and local authority representatives to look at practical measures to reduce regulatory visits and form-filling.

Significantly, all these business organisations agreed to details of their participation being included in Labour documents published yesterday as part of the party's launch of its new strategy for small firms. Labour explicitly gave the source of aspects of its small firms policy as being ideas from business bodies.

Tony Blair, the Labour leader, announced that a Labour Government would revamp the present deregulation task force by giving small firms a much stronger voice on it. "We aim to ensure half the members of the taskforce represent small business, so that it responds to their needs and not just those of larger firms," he said.

Claiming that Labour is now the "party of small business", Mr Blair emphasised Labour's commitment to greater economic stability as a way of protecting small firms, and said: "We want Britain's small businesses to succeed. And we are determined a new Labour Government will give them the backing they deserve."

Business bodies such as the Forum for Private Business and the IoD welcomed Labour's move, with some even forbearing to criticise some other Labour policies, including a minimum wage and Labour's intention to sign the European social chapter. Mr Blair said that many small firms would benefit from both policies.

However, Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, accused Labour of trying to dupe small firms into thinking that its policies were "benign". Accusing Labour's policies of being a "catalogue of calamities" for small firms, Mr Lang said: "While Labour pretends to be small firms friendly, their policies are a menace to small business, and are rejected by most small business themselves."

Citing Labour policy on minimum pay and the social chapter, Mr Lang said: "If Labour want to be business friendly, they must adopt policies which are in line with what small businesses want. Deceptive flannel won't wash."

Britain's chambers of commerce will tomorrow set out what they want to see from the next Government, though they will be careful not to give support to any particular political party.

Your Own Business, page 20

Colin Smith, left, Sir Alistair Grant, centre, and David Webster, deputy chairman

Financial moves heat up store wars

By Sarah Cunningham

THE RACE between supermarket groups to move into financial services gathered pace yesterday as Safeway launched a debit card and J Sainsbury said it had been granted a banking licence.

Safeway's ABC Bonus Account card, which customers will be able to use from early next month, will pay 5 per cent gross interest on balances up to £600. Above £600, it pays only 1 per cent — a rate structure intended to discourage customers from holding too much on deposit. The card, an extension of Safeway's ABC loyalty card, is operated in conjunction with Abbey National, which will manage the scheme.

Tesco's Clubcard Plus, also a debit card and the first to be brought out by a supermarket, pays 5 per cent on all balances. Unlike the Tesco card, the ABC card will not offer overdrafts although Safeway, of which Sir Alistair Grant is chairman and Colin Smith chief executive, is expected to introduce an overdraft facility and a credit card by the end of this year.

The Safeway debit card can be used to pay for goods and services at Safeway's 380 stores and 70,000 other outlets that accept Visa's Electron online debit card. These include C&A, Lillywhites, and Our Price. Phone banking is also available. As a launch incentive, Safeway is offering 500 ABC bonus points and 12 weeks of double points.

Sainsbury is expected to launch its bank by the end of this month. It will own a 55 per cent stake and Bank of Scotland 45 per cent.

Safeway shares, which fell sharply on Friday after it reported disappointing trade last month, lost another 4½p yesterday and Sainsbury ticked down a ½p to 320½p.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Avis Europe growth to be funded by float

AVIS EUROPE, the car rental group, aims to raise £250 million in a flotation that will offer novel benefits to investors. People who buy at least £1,000 worth of shares and hold them for more than three months will be eligible for a free rental car. Investors will become members of the Avis Europe Founders Club and "entitled to special benefits and a range of discounts in accordance with their status as 'founding' shareholders". Members will receive vouchers for an extra free rental day for every two paid days, and other discounts.

Avis — separate from the US company of that name — is likely to have a market value of about £700 million. Most of the £250 million will be used to expand rental activity in western Europe, with a smaller amount invested in building up a hire network in eastern Europe and in Asia. Some of the funds will be used to repurchase the 14.2 per cent stake held by General Motors and to reduce Avis's £500 million of debts. In the six months to August 31, Avis Europe achieved operating profits of £54.2 million, 16.3 per cent up on the same period the previous year. Alun Cathcart, chairman, said that flotation would allow Avis to capitalise on market opportunities in existing areas and fund expansion into emerging markets.

Ionica considers float

IONICA, the wireless telephony company, said it is "certainly possible" that it will list its shares on the Stock Exchange by the end of the year. Its original business plan called for a flotation by the end of 1995, but it took longer to launch commercial operations than expected; they began six months ago. The statement came as Ionica, whose shareholders include Yorkshire Electricity, Northern Electric and Morgan Stanley, the US investment bank, said it was expanding its operations from its base in the East of England into the Midlands.

Lynx team plans buyout

THE management of Lynx Express, the parcels business that is owned by NFC, is planning a buyout of the company, it was announced yesterday. NFC said that it was in talks with NatWest Ventures, the venture capital house, "which may lead to the disposal" of Lynx. Lynx had net assets of £25 million at the September 30 year end, and turnover of £94 million. NatWest Ventures is conducting due diligence checks and no further announcements are expected for several weeks.

Zeneca given go-ahead

ZENECA, the pharmaceuticals and agrochemicals group, received approval yesterday from the Environmental Protection Agency of the US to sell Azoxystrobin, a fungicide based on naturally occuring compounds found in mushrooms. The product, whose commercial name is Heritage, will be launched this month and will be used on turf grass, a market valued at $150 million a year. Azoxystrobin was approved in Germany last year and registrations in all major world markets are expected over the next 12 months.

Fund to back Balkans

THE first investment fund specialising in the Balkans and South-Eastern Europe is to be launched by Regent Pacific. The fund, which is likely to be an offshore company registered in the Cayman Islands, will seek to raise about £60 million from institutional investors. It will aim to buy stocks in potential blue chip companies. Regent Pacific said that the most attractive countries in the region include Romania and Croatia, with Albania and Bosnia at the other end of the scale.

Treasury's sale to raise £1.5bn

By Jason Nisse

THE Treasury is to receive a £1.5 billion boost to its finances in the next seven weeks after agreeing to sell its housing association loan book to NatWest Markets, the merchant banking arm of NatWest.

The final price will not be determined until the deal is completed late next month, but NatWest admitted it was paying a substantial premium to the book value of the loans, which stands at £965 million.

This is because the long-term loans given to 1,000 housing associations to flesh out Government grants are at fixed interest rates, which average just over 11 per cent, compared with base rates of 6 per cent and average variable mortgage rates of 7.25 per cent.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.24	2.09
Austria Sch	19.92	18.42
Belgium Fr	58.90	54.20
Canada $	2.310	2.150
Cyprus CypE	0.838	0.783
Denmark Kr	10.83	10.03
Finland Mkk	8.56	7.91
France Fr	9.49	8.84
Germany Dm	2.84	2.63
Greece Dr	441	415
Hong Kong $	13.26	12.26
Iceland	120	100
Ireland Pt	1.07	0.99
Israel Shk	5.70	5.05
Italy Lira	2768	2593
Japan Yen	214.50	198.50
Malta	0.653	0.598
Netherlds Gld	3.172	2.942
New Zealand $	2.52	2.30
Norway Kr	11.15	10.35
Portugal Esc	281.00	262.50
S Africa Rd	7.81	7.01
Spain Pta	238.50	221.50
Sweden Kr	12.57	11.77
Switzerland Fr	2.45	2.27
Turkey Lira	204000	190000
USA $	1.728	1.596

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

Eight express ScotAm interest

By Robert Miller, Banking Correspondent

ABBEY National and the Prudential, the two leading contenders to buy Scottish Amicable, were last night due to sign confidentiality agreements with SBC Warburg, the City adviser to the mutual insurer.

Up to eight potential bidders, including Fortis, the Dutch insurer, and the Australian Mutual Provident, are believed to have contacted Warburgs to express a serious interest in buying Scottish Amicable. The Warburgs team, led by Jock Birney, has drafted in Michael Kershaw, an executive director of the corporate finance division, to help to assess submitted bids.

The rival bidders will now be given access to confidential financial information on Scottish Amicable, although only four are finally expected to table bids. Any successful offer is likely to be in the range of £2 billion and be accompanied by reassurances on jobs.

Abbey, where Peter Birch is chief executive, was rumoured to have upped its £1.4 billion bid to £2.2 billion, way ahead of Prudential's £1.9 billion offer. An Abbey spokesman said last night: "We have not moved our original offer and any figures being bandied about are simply speculation. We are about to sign a confidentiality agreement and we hope to spend the next two weeks looking in depth at the financial information and talking to the directors."

City Diary, page 29

Birch: offer speculation

Miners at RJB vote against pay strikes

By Christine Buckley
Industrial Correspondent

MINERS at RJB Mining, the UK's largest coal producer, have voted against a series of strikes over pay by nearly two to one.

The National Union of Mineworkers had to re-ballot its members on industrial action after a strike mandate before Christmas was thrown out by the High Court because of balloting irregularities. The ruling came after the discovery that not all NUM members had received ballot papers, and that voting documents had gone to some people who were no longer union members.

Miners voted 1,908 to 1,037 against strike action over pay levels and conciliation on a turnout of more than 70 per cent. RJB declared the result a victory for the long-term future of the industry. A spokesman said: "Mineworkers are aware of the challenges facing the coal industry and that their future security depends on maintaining reliable supplies of competitively priced energy."

The NUM concentrated the second ballot on only RJB members after the pre-Christmas ballot had included workers at the Mines Rescue Service and Mining Scotland, which is partly owned by the NUM.

RJB, which employs 9,500 people at its 19 collieries, has changed the pay structure for miners by condensing 20 pay grades to five and freezing salary increases of some of the higher paid grades. It said its last pay awards were skewed to benefiting the lower-paid levels.

Spending plans £14bn over target

By Janet Bush, Economics Editor

THE Government's programme for reducing the public deficit is not credible, largely because its spending plans are too optimistic, according to the National Institute of Economic and Social Research.

Martin Weale, the institute's director, argues that an additional £14 billion would have to be raised from a mixture of spending cuts and tax increases if the public finances were to be restored to a sustainable level. The £14 billion figure is derived from his estimate that Britain faces a structural budget deficit (as opposed to a cyclical deficit, related to the stage of the economic cycle) of about 2 per cent, equivalent to £14 billion.

He said: "For the past three or four years, the Government has said that the budget deficit would be erased in four years' time. It seems to be following a strategy each year of putting off by one year the date at which it gets to budget balance."

The National Institute started cautioning about the unsustainability of the public finances last October and Mr Weale is due to repeat these strictures in a paper that he is delivering to a conference on March 17, hosted by the Economic and Social Research Council.

Mr Weale said yesterday that his calculations imply that, whichever party is in power, the future Government may have to raise taxes by as much as £10 billion. However, he said that this figure depends entirely on the view which is taken of the Government's current public spending plans.

He takes the view that the Government's existing spending plans are not believable.

On the other hand, Mr Weale said that concerns on the revenue side of the public finance equation had been overstated and that there were obvious ways of raising extra taxes. One possibility would be to abolish mortgage interest relief altogether, which would raise about £5 billion.

Major urges firms to look at Latin America

By Oliver August

UK businesses were yesterday urged by John Major to seek links with Latin America, the world's second fastest growing region after South-East Asia.

The Prime Minister, launching a government campaign to raise inward investment and exports in an area in which the UK is trailing continental European competitors, said: "British businessmen may be looking at the region for the first time. You are right to do so."

Brazil's GDP is of the same order of magnitude as China's and 50 per cent larger than India's, Mr Major said.

The main reason for British scepticism about investing in Latin America was rampant inflation. However, the average inflation rate has fallen from 340 per cent to 25 per cent in the past two years.

The Government is organising campaign roadshows, the first of which has brought Latin American businessmen and ministers to London this week.

Top directors enjoy better pension deals

By Gavin Lumsden

DIRECTORS at Britain's top companies get twice the amount of their salaries paid into pension schemes as ordinary employees, a new survey has revealed. The survey found that companies pay about 35 per cent of directors' pay into pensions schemes, but 17 per cent for the rest of their workforce.

The survey by Lane Clark & Peacock, an actuarial firm, looked at the practice of 99 companies in the FT-SE 200 and 22 multinationals. It is certain to fuel the controversy over directors' remuneration.

Assuming each company has six executive directors on an average salary of £140,000, corporate Britain is spending more than £39 million on funding future pensions for just 800 people. The survey found that while some companies rewarded directors with only 12 per cent of pay, others paid 63 per cent of pensionable pay.

THE TIMES

100

Shaping the future for business success.

The Times 100 business studies package is a major multi-media teaching initiative, which bridges the gap between business, industry and schools.

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Legal & General

Tobacco firms challenge FDA

By Alasdair Murray

TOBACCO companies yesterday began a legal battle to try to undermine powers given to the Food and Drug Administration in the US to regulate the industry.

The industry is angry that the FDA has been given the right to define tobacco as a "drug" and make regulations accordingly. The first restrictions, which include a ban on free samples and advertising near schools, are due to come in at the end of February.

Lawyers representing the main tobacco companies claimed in their opening remarks that the FDA was seeking powers that could ultimately be used to shut down the industry. The tobacco companies hope to prove that the FDA is violating its mandate in trying to regulate the industry. A preliminary decision is expected in the next two weeks.

BAT Industries, meanwhile, moved to clarify comments made at the weekend that it would consider a permanent settlement to the litigation battles being fought by Brown & Williamson, its main tobacco subsidiary, across the US.

The company said it would consider any reasonable moves to end the battles but that plans for a global settlement have not been put to the company at this stage. It added that, for the moment, it would continue to fight in the courts and was confident of winning all existing cases.

Pennington, page 27

☐ Labour's windfall plans could fall foul of the EC ☐ US deal on tobacco looks unlikely ☐ Galileo faces Exchange inquisition.

Taxing the patience of Brussels

☐ LABOUR'S windfall tax is in trouble again, with a most unlikely party. The Eurocrats, who might be regarded as Tony Blair's natural allies, have their doubts. Their argument, which would put Gordon Brown as a Chancellor levying tax on utilities on their "excess" profits on collision course with the Treaty of Rome, is all to do with state aid to industry.

This is *verboten* under Euro-law, which is not to say it does not happen but that it causes no end of expensive wrangling when it does. We have looked before at the question of which companies are utilities. Labour is not sure, and it is a matter of dispute between Brown, who favours hitting anything vaguely resembling one, and Blair, who has already chummed up with two borderline cases, British Airways and British Telecom.

But European law, paradoxically, would require the tax to be levied as widely as possible, or risk being ruled unfair. A confidential note from the competition authorities in Brussels to the European Commission office in London makes this clear.

There is no such thing as negative state aid, it says, whereby one company is taxed by the member government. Instead this comprises positive aid to that company's competitors if these escape untaxed. This is perfectly logical: penalise metal-basher A financially, and metal-basher B has a clear advantage in the markets where the two compete.

Brussels points out that if the windfall tax is levied on all companies within a market, this is fair. There is no reason to extend the tax to other industries. But if the tax goes on privatised companies and not their competitors, it aids the latter, and this is unfair. The Commission note makes this quite clear. The implications for any tax could be disastrous.

There is no problem in real monopolies such as water and power distribution — except that these would not produce the sums Labour wants. But consider three key industries. In telecoms, a tax on BT would logically require one on Mercury — part of Cable and Wireless, itself, note, a privatised company. And how about Vodafone, in competition with BT's land lines?

In airports, if you tax BAA, owner of Heathrow and Gatwick, you presumably have to tax Preston, which it does not own. How about Paris and Schiphol, which compete for the transatlantic trade? And P&O's Dover terminal?

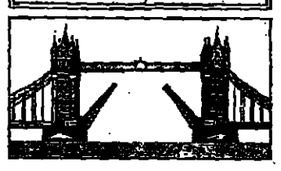
In power generation, included in Labour's tax plans, there are currently 20 companies selling electricity. Tax the three biggest, National Power, PowerGen and Nuclear Electric, and you have to hit the small gas-fired stations and Enron's plant on Teesside.

You also have to tax another contributor to the nation's power needs. About 2,000 MW, enough to supply two million people, comes across the Channel, generated by state-owned Electricité de France. Oh to be a *mouche sur le mur* when that tax bill arrives from perfidious Albion.

No smoke without ire

☐ THE latest attempt to extract Danegeld from US tobacco companies such as Brown & Williamson, owned by BAT Industries, looks like going nowhere. Martin Broughton, BAT's chief executive, has said he might consider some sort of final settlement to the endless litigation in the US. The problem, as ever when paying off the Danes, is the definition of final.

PENNINGTON



The US tobacco industry makes about $6 billion in profit each year. Sighting shots from the various attorney-generals suing the industry suggest this is about what would have to be handed over into a special fund in exchange for a guarantee of no further law-suits. This is clearly unacceptable to the industry, which spends about $500 million a year on litigation, so any settlement would have to be somewhere between these poles.

Suppose a deal could be reached between the two, whereby 10 per cent or whatever of profits went into a fund compensating victims of smoking and reimbursing the states themselves for their spending on Medicaid. The difficulties are still enormous. The companies would not be allowed pass this extra hidden tax on to their customers: does this mean some sort of price controls?

It would need legislation in Congress, supported both by the Republicans, some of whom are ideologically opposed to such state intervention, and the Democrats, the extreme wing of whom would like to see cigarettes taxed out of existence. Then it would need the support of all the states themselves.

It would then be open season for every clever lawyer in America to prise open the limits of such a "final" settlement. The cigarette companies are asking for a promise that the authorities, because no one can control the insanely litigious culture in the US, are unable to deliver on.

Consider this statistic. In 1995, the last year of record, Brown & Williamson spent $50 million on litigation.

Farmers, BAT's insurance business, spent ten times as much, because two American motorists cannot bump fenders without screaming for their lawyers. And for sheer rapacity, US lawyers leave the average honest Viking raider for dead.

Lanica leak lamentable

☐ ANDREW REGAN'S reputation as a *wunderkind* has taken a bit of a battering. The Stock Exchange is examining the apparent leak of plans by Lanica Trust, his company, to buy parts of the Co-op. One hopes that the authorities will not have to waste too much time. Only a handful of institutions who had agreed to back him knew of the plans, and Mr Regan will presumably co-operate to the full in handing over their names.

He has been made to look silly by the snap response to the news from the twin arms of the Co-op, which can be broadly summarised as "Andrew who?" His shareholders may be locked into their investment for an undefined time, which will not make him popular with them. And his credibility will not be enhanced because less than a month ago Lanica was forced to say it knew of no reason for rises in the share price — and by implication, that no big deal was in the offing.

His company's only existing venture, an as yet unproven catalogue deal with the Naafi, might be worth £20 million to £30 million, if you are feeling generous. Yet Lanica was capitalised at a short £100 million when the Stock Exchange pulled the plug on share trades. If the Co-op deal fails, the shares can only fall. The leak makes the deal more difficult to achieve.

The vehicle in talks with the Co-op is codenamed Galileo. Lanica says there was no deliberate leak, and indeed if there was it has backfired horribly. As the real Galileo is supposed to have said, *eppur' si muove* — yet it moves. And yet it leaked.

Bank error

☐ THE National Consumer Council says the poor earn less from their savings than the well-off. They also tend to exit the supermarket with less in their trolleys; research even suggests they live in smaller houses. No one keeps their money in a bank account for the interest. They keep it there because it is less likely to be stolen than if, in the NCC's words, the cash is stuffed under the mattress.

Biotech sector rallies after Peptide deal

By Eric Reguly

THE biotechnology sector rallied yesterday after Peptide Therapeutics, the Cambridge company that specialises in allergy treatments, announced its second licensing deal since January.

SmithKline Beecham, one of the world's largest pharmaceuticals groups, has agreed to put £6 million into Peptide in exchange for exclusive worldwide marketing rights to its portfolio of allergy vaccines.

Of this amount, £2.4 million is cash and the rest is through the purchase of a million new ordinary Peptide shares at 360p each. This will give SB 2.8 per cent of Peptide's enlarged share capital. Peptide could receive another £24 million in licence and "milestone" payments, raising the total to £30 million, depending on the progress made in developing the anti-allergy drugs.

The equity investment represents a premium of 16 per cent over the average price of Peptide shares in the five trading days to the end of last week. The shares, sold at 200p in late 1995, closed at 369p, up 40p, to set a new high.

Shares of other biotech companies rose on expectations that more licensing deals with large pharmaceutical companies are in the offing. British Biotech closed up 9½p to 240p, Chiroscience up 19p at 357½p, and Cantab Pharmaceuticals up 7½p at 835p.

If the allergy drugs reach the market, Peptide will receive royalty payments on sales. The company provided no details on the royalties, but noted that the global market for such vaccines is valued at about £5 billion a year.

Peptide's vaccines have the potential to protect against a broad range of allergies, including hay fever and food allergies from shellfish, nuts and the like.

The most severe form of allergic response is anaphylaxis, which can be fatal. An estimated seven million people in Europe and North America are said to be potential anaphylaxis victims. Another 66 million suffer from allergic rhinitis, which includes hay fever.

Peptide said that the first of the allergy vaccines could be on the market in 1999.

In January, Peptide formed an alliance with Medeva to research and develop non-injectible vaccines. The four vaccines under initial development are designed to treat typhoid, flu, tetanus and diarrhoea. Medeva agreed to take a 2.5 per cent stake in Peptide at 340p a share, for a total investment of £3 million.

The SB and Medeva payments will provide cash when Peptide needs it most. At the start of 1996, the company had £27 million in cash and was spending £7 million a year on research and development.

The oral typhoid treatment, is in phase one trials. Two others, the allergy drug and a rheumatoid arthritis one are in phase two trials.

Tempus, page 28

Shares fall as troubles hit VDC

SHARES of VDC lost 40 per cent of their value yesterday after the veterinary and dentistry supplies group gave warning that a computer error had led it to overstate its interim profits by £240,000 (Fraser Nelson writes).

Roland Denning, chairman, said the bug had caused sales to be overstated by about 2 per cent. The company plans to increase prices to overcome the shortfall.

Mr Denning said that the dentistry arm was still hit by problems and that group profits for the year would be significantly below the £2.7 million expected by the City.

Its shares on the Alternative Investment Market plunged from 275p to 165p yesterday, although none changed hands.

Toad tumbles as chief resigns after 27 days

By Fraser Nelson

SHARES in Toad, the car security group headed by Chris Evans, the biotechnology tycoon, slumped to an all-time low yesterday when the chief executive resigned after only 27 days in the job.

Charles Parker, who left Charter to become chief executive of Toad, was recruited to help the company to raise £7 million in a rights issue at the end of last year. His exit stunned the market, sending Toad's shares tumbling from 61p to 41½p. The rights shares were issued at 80p.

Dr Evans, Toad's founder, said the split had come after irreconcilable differences about management style, and on the company's future. He added that Toad's sales over December and January were significantly below budget.

Dr Evans, non-executive chairman, said Mr Parker had felt too much of a cultural difference in coming from Charter, a £666 million industrial company, to Toad, which is not expected to become profitable until next year.

Evans: seeking replacement

He said: "We spent five months interviewing him, he did months of his own due diligence, and we told him everything he wanted to know about the company. But after he joined, he told me that he'd made a mistake and said he wanted to leave."

He played down the trading report, saying that December and January were traditionally poor months, and that sales were still higher than last year. He said the company was still on course to break even next year, and would have no difficulty attracting a replacement for Mr Parker.

"I've got the best headhunters in the land working on it, and I'm already taking calls from people who want to become the new chief executive," he said. "We will consider them — that is an entrepreneurial thing to do."

Toad, which joined the Alternative Investment Market in 1995, is shifting from retail to the corporate market.

Tempus, page 28

STUART HARRISON

Andrew MacKenzie said the recovery was enticing people who had been content to rent

Bryant gets boost from older buyers

By Fraser Nelson

THE older age profile of the current crop of first-time buyers has given a boost to Bryant, the housebuilder that concentrates on three and four-bedroomed houses.

Andrew MacKenzie, chief executive, said the recovery in the housing market had encouraged the return of first-time buyers who have been renting for the past few years, and are able to afford to enter the market at a higher level.

The phenomenon helped Bryant's pre-tax profits to climb 53 per cent to £15.4 million for the six months to November 30. Margins on house sales, which hit a low of 6 per cent last time, recovered to 8.6 per cent.

Admiral Homes, which it bought five months ago for £62.2 million, turned in £24.5 million of sales. After integration costs, it made profits of £100,000. Earnings rose to 3.7p (2.4p) per share, but the interim dividend was pegged to 1.45p. It is due on April 23.

Guthrie to join Queensborough

By Alasdair Murray

MICHAEL GUTHRIE is to join the board of Queensborough Holdings, with a mandate to establish the leisure company in the booming restaurant sector.

Stuart Sims, deputy chairman of Queensborough, said that Mr Guthrie would add to the company a wealth of experience in both the restaurant industry and the leisure sector in general.

Queensborough is considering making an acquisition of around £10 million to kick-start its entry into the food market although it is also investigating the options for a start-up brand.

Mr Guthrie was chairman of Brightreasons, the restaurant chain that was sold to Whitbread last autumn for £46 million. The link with Brightreasons has led to speculation that Queensborough will bid for Pizza Piazza — one of the brands sold to Whitbread but which the brewing company has said does not fit its portfolio.

Mr Guthrie first made his name as chairman of Mecca, the leisure business, before it was acquired by Rank in 1989. He also served as chairman of Pavillion, the motorway service station group, before it was sold to Granada. A consortium led by Mr Guthrie is believed to have tendered a bid for the Welcome Break chain of service stations, which Granada must sell by the end of April.

Queensborough has expanded quickly since it was founded in 1994. It is the third largest caravan park operator in Britain. The shares closed up 5p, at 36p.

Record profits for birthday BA

By Oliver August

BRITISH AIRWAYS, which will today celebrate the tenth anniversary of its privatisation, announced record profits for the third quarter in spite of a 33 per cent rise in fuel prices, which pushed the airline's fuel bill up by £56 million.

BA made pre-tax profits of £113 million compared with £104 million in the last three months of 1995, an increase of 8.7 per cent. This resulted in profits of £583 million in the first nine months of its financial year, up £49 million on last year's record total.

On top of the fuel price burden, BA also joined the long list of British companies that have suffered from the rise in sterling. This reduced revenues by 1.8 per cent for every mile flown.

Passenger traffic in the three months rose 9 per cent, and 71.2 per cent of available seats were sold, another record figure. Third quarter earnings per share rose to 9.2p from 9.1p.

Sir Colin Marshall, the chairman, said 1996 had been a year of "economic growth and record profits" for the airline industry. "We expect these trends to continue in 1997," Sir Colin said.

The group would concentrate on clearing the regulatory hurdles in the way of the alliance with American Airlines and on the launch of new transatlantic services, he said.

Passengers will today be offered 200 return tickets on Concorde between London and New York — worth £5,400 each — for just £10 as part of the anniversary celebrations.

Tempus, page 28

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STOCK MARKET MICHAEL CLARK

Shareholders' hopes rise as demerger of Gas nears

THE countdown has begun for long-suffering shareholders of **British Gas** to the demerger into two separate companies.

Shares of British Gas *marked time* at 243½p as trading started yesterday on the unofficial grey market in warrants of Centrica, the troubled gas supply division. They *opened at 60p, hit a low of 55p* then touched 72¼p before closing 9¾p better at 69¾p. By contrast warrants in BG, the oil and gas exploration *and distribution arms of the* business, opened at 185p and *sank to* 134p. They later rallied to finish 30p dearer at 173p.

The extraordinary meeting to approve the demerger has been called for tomorrow. *Brokers say it is likely to* be a rubber-stamping operation. It is hoped the financial restructuring will bring some relief to the group, which has lurched from one PR *disaster* to another during the past year.

Elsewhere, share prices saw early gains wiped out after an uncertain start to trading on Wall Street after the weekend break. The FT-SE 100 index *had reached a new intra-day* high of 4,330.0 on the back of the drop in January input prices and further demand for financial issues. It closed 0.1 down at 4,307.7 on turnover of 816 million shares.

The speculators were again out in force in the financial sector as their appetites were whetted by the prospect of further rationalisation within the industry. **Prudential Corporation** rose 9½p to 581½p as the battle for control of Scottish Amicable intensified. Reports over the weekend suggested **Abbey National**, ½p lighter at 780½p, was *poised to return with a higher* offer to top the one last week from the Pru.

Mercury Asset Management leapt another 26½p to £13.82 on reports that Merrill Lynch is looking to bid.

Commercial Union** put on* 11½p at 748p, **General Accident** rose 26p to 872p, and **Royal Sun Alliance** was 8p higher at 500p. **Lloyds TSB** rose 6½p to 493p ahead of Friday's trading news. There were also *gains for **National Westminster, 11p to 827p, and **Barclays**, 9½p to a new peak of £11.78½p.

GKN fell 11p to 984p under the threat of litigation in the US. **Guinness** retreated 3½p *to* 431p *as a line of* 9.42 million shares went through the market at 429½p. LVMH, its French associate, is unloading *its sizeable stake.*

Shares in high-flying **Lanica Trust** climbed 312½p to £19.50 before being suspended at the company's request. It follows reports that Lanica's Andrew Regan is *putting together a deal to bid* for the non-food interests of the Co-op Retail Society for around £500 million. *Last* night the Co-op said it had not been approached by Lanica and had no intention of selling any of its businesses.

Quiligotti, the ceramic tiles supplier, rose 6½p to 21½p as *a controlling stake in the* company was placed in the market. The concert party, including Strand Nominees and Capital Partners, the two biggest shareholders, between them placed a total of 22.77 million shares, or 50.75 per cent *of the issued share capital*, at 20½p with various institutional investors.

Peptide Therapeutics surged 40p to 369p on the news that it had linked up with **SmithKline Beecham**, *forming a joint company to* develop Peptide's allergy vaccine portfolio. Brokers said the *deal could provide* Peptide with a £30 million windfall. In return SmithKline will have the exclusive rights to market the products worldwide. SmithKline slipped 2p to 852p.

A number of the quoted *footall clubs found themselves* caught offside by a report from Coopers & Lybrand, the accountant, suggesting that clubs are grossly overvalued. It is something that a lot of brokers are already keenly aware of, which is why they are reluctant to recommend football clubs to clients. In the event, *Manchester United* fell 10½p to 693½p, **Loftus Road** 13½p to 76½p, **Sheffield United** 6½p to 83½p, **Chelsea Village** 2½p to 167½p and **Celtic** 200p to £375.

British Airways rose 11p to 597½p *after confounding* the market with a record set of third-quarter figures to coincide with celebrations to mark the company's tenth *birthday as a public company.*

The City gave a lukewarm reception to half-year figures from **Dalgety** with the price firming 1½p to 341p. Profits were ravaged by the slump in sales of animal feeds after the *slaughter* of cattle as a result of the BSE crisis.

A profits warning left **Triad**, the computer software specialist, 45p down at 228½p. A *delay in finalising contracts* means that profits for the year to March are unlikely to match expectations.

A profits warning also left **VDC** 110p lower at 165p.

The boardroom bust-up at *Toad left the shares 19p down* at 41½p. Charles Parker has resigned as chief executive after only a month in the job. **Queensborough Holdings**, the hotels chain, rose 5p to 36p on the news that Michael Guthrie, the former chief ofMecca, is to head up the group's eating-out division.

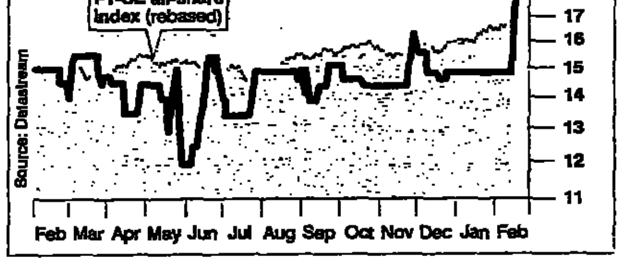
☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Prices opened on a firm note and were *further bolstered by the* drop in the January producers' price index which went some way to justifying the Chancellor's decision last week to peg interest rates.

As prices reached their best *of the day, the Bank of* England took the opportunity to issue some fresh index-linked stock. But before long the profit-takers moved in, leaving prices nursing modest falls on the day. The March *series of the long gilt touched a* high of £113¹⁵⁄₃₂ before closing £¼ down at £112²⁹⁄₃₂ as a total of 54,000 contracts were completed.

Treasury *8* per cent 2015 finished £¼ down at £106²³⁄₃₂, while Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was £⅛ lower at £104¹⁄₃₂.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Sharp losses in networking and other high-tech shares dragged down the *Dow Jones industrial average* in morning trade and by midday it was 6.92 points lower at 6,848.88.

Martin Edwards, chairman of Manchester United, down 10½p



Credit Lyonnais Laing, the broker, remains bullish about the oil sector for 1997. Top of its shopping list is BP, down 15½p at 721p *before figures out today, Enterprise Oil, 2p easier at 672½p*, and Premier Oil, up ¼p at 41¾p. But it is cautious about Burmah, up 21p at £10.44½, and British Borneo, 2½p down at £13.56.

MAJOR INDICES

New York (*midday*):

Dow Jones	6848.88 (-6.92)
S&P Composite	790.24 (-0.68)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	18181.17 (+314.13)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	13643.54 (-16.96)
Amsterdam:	
EOE Index	695.04 (+0.79)
Sydney:	
AO	2446.4 (-0.3)
Frankfurt:	
DAX	3184.36 (+46.35)
Singapore:	
Straits	Closed
Brussels:	
General	11588.64 (+22.30)
Paris:	
CAC-40	2595.37 (-2.15)
Zurich:	
SKA Gen	930.70 (+4.30)
London:	
FT 30	2839.9 (-2.5)
FT 100	4307.7 (-0.1)
FTSE Mid 250	4596.7 (+4.6)
FTSE 350	2128.1 (+0.4)
FTSE Eurotrack 100	2123.68 (+14.13)
FT All-Share	2100.56 (+0.68)
FT Non Financials	2139.33 (-3.20)
FT Fixed Interest	119.45 (+0.29)
FT Govt Secs	96.32 (+0.02)
Bargains	54453
SEAQ Volume	817.8m
US$	1.6331 (+0.0095)
German Mark	2.7051 (-0.0104)
Exchange Index	97.0 (-0.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.3837
£:SDR	1.1758
RPI	154.4 Dec (2.5%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	154.2 Dec (3.1%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

BZW Endowment Red 55		...
C&B Publishing	180	+ 15
Calidore Group	3¼	...
Calidore Warrants	1	...
Enterprise Vent (100)	89½	...
Epicore Network	55	...
GB Railways	199½	...
Hardy Underwrtg	167	...
IMS Group	170	- ½
John Lewis	4	...
Netcall	57½	...
Oxford Biomedica	54½	...
Parkwood Holdings	75½	...
Prelude Tsr	117½	...
Prelude Warrants	42½	...
Sunderland	752½	...
Sutton Harbour	137	...
Tea Plantations Inv	99½	...
Tea Plantations Wts	25	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Finelist Gp n/p (320)	57½	- 3
Gt Portland n/p (190)	8	- 1¼
Hall Eng n/p (250)	8½	+ 2
Morland n/p (500)	77	+ 1

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Peptide Thera	369p (+40p)
Shield Diag	285p (+23p)
Chiroscience	357½p (+19p)
Scot TV	596½p (+30p)
Forward Gp	183p (+8p)
Brit Biotech	240p (+8½p)
Black Leis	430½p (+10p)
Br Airways	597½p (+11p)
Allied Irish	452p (+10½p)
Dudley Jenkins	230½p (+9p)
Roxboro	193½p (+7p)
Gearhouse Group	350½p (+15p)
BTG	480p (+17½p)

FALLS:

Brake Bros	445p (-30p)
Psion	393p (-12p)
Vitec	629p (-16p)
Dixons Grp	496p (-12p)
GKN	984p (-11p)
Siebe	990½p (-14p)
Br Petroleum	721p (-15½p)
Bunzl	200p (-7½p)

Closing Prices Page 31

TEMPUS

Above the clouds

BRITISH AIRWAYS gets irritated when it is accused of trying to turn itself into a "virtual airline". Last year it pledged to concentrate on its core businesses of flying planes while letting *others deal with the peripheral activities under* its brand name. But it rejected the virtual label, probably because it feared that customers would read "invisible" for virtual. BA customers are undoubtedly smarter than that. Yesterday's third-quarter results, however, ensured that BA will be just as visible in the future as it has been since privatisation.

Profits can only be described as very good. Not only has BA reached record levels but it has done so at a time when it faced a serious cost squeeze. Fuel prices, which make up a significant part of the cost of a ticket, shot up by a third. The driving public has not seen such an increase in petrol prices since the last oil shock.

On top of the fuel blow, the pound has soared. These type of cost pressure are of the most *frustrating nature* for managers because there is almost nothing that can be done.

Instead of worrying about costs, BA managers will try to boost revenue further to maintain profit levels. Their prospects are good. Passenger numbers are *still growing* and the alliance with American Airlines, which could *bring cost* reductions, will go ahead smoothly, the City believes.

At the full-year results in May, BA plans to give a progress report on its campaign to find £1 billion of annual cost savings. Last September, BA launched its business efficiency programme to find ways of rationalising its various operations.

Results suggest that it is a virtually efficient airline *already*.

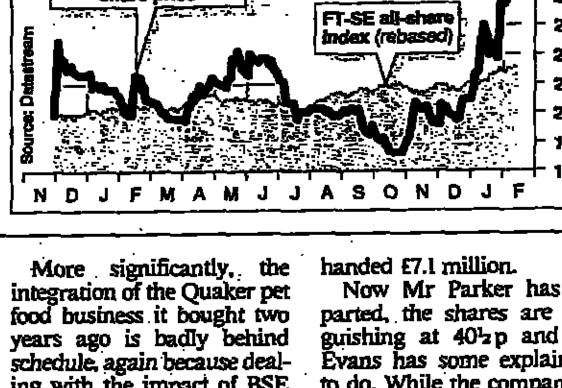
Peptide

SHAREHOLDERS of Peptide Therapeutics have taken *their fair share of jolts in an* industry notorious for rocky rides. The shares were listed at 200p in late 1995, rose to 240p during the biotech frenzy, *then slumped to 180p.*

But just when things looked grim, along came Medeva and SmithKline Beecham. Their licensing deals provide well-needed cash and a vote of confidence. Both companies have taken small equity stakes in Peptide, whose specialty is the development of allergy drugs.

Peptide shares were volatile because of valid concerns that America's Food and Drug Administration might never approve Peptide's vaccine portfolio. The vaccine technology was not in question; it was the technology's carrier system, based on shellfish protein. SmithKline Beecham, which has acquired the global marketing rights to Peptide's *portfolio* in exchange for a commitment to fund development, presumably will make use of its own carrier system, paving the way *for quicker* approval.

Now the lottery begins again. No amount of funding can create a commercial product *if the technology* does not support it, and Peptide will live or die by the next clinical trials. But this is the nature of the industry. If SmithKline *Beecham* and Medeva are willing to take *the* gamble, shareholders should be tempted to stick around for the ride.



Dalgety

THE soothing words from Dalgety about its improved *prospects for the second half* are not enough to dispel the feeling that the company is being forced by circumstances to fight battles on too many fronts.

The list of problems encountered in the first half makes depressing reading. The banning of beef exports because of mad cow disease (BSE) had an obvious and *instantaneous effect on its pet* food business. But the disruptions to the cattle market as a whole have also hit cattle feed sales very badly in the first half and will continue to have some impact in the *second half*.

Back in pet foods, Felix has stood up well to a big advertising campaign for Whiskas, but in dog food Winalot has seen its market share decline. The success of an *imminent* relaunch *will* not be seen until the full-year results.

More significantly, the integration of the Quaker pet food business it bought two years ago is badly behind *schedule, again* because dealing with the impact of BSE has distracted managers.

The company's desire for a period of stability after all the changes of recent years is understandable, and it would certainly benefit the shares. But in reality, some of the battles it is fighting will continue, however much Dalgety wants to call a truce.

Toad

IF the Sale of Goods Act extended to rights issues, Toad would have a long queue assembling outside its Cambridge headquarters demanding a refund.

As little as five months ago, Charles Parker was selling new shares at 80p, backed by a vision of the future in which he and Chris Evans, chairman, were the central players. It seemed a convincing punt and Toad was, in turn, handed £7.1 million.

Now Mr Parker has departed, the shares are languishing at 40½p and Dr Evans has some explaining to do. While the company is still on course for a March 1998 breakeven, its investors will not receive what they thought they were paying for.

While the company itself has taken a knock, it is not terminally ill. December and January car security sales suffered, but were still ahead of last year. The real money is *coming* from corporate customers, and that will only start to flow in spring. Toad still thinks this will happen as expected.

The share collapse would seem to be a buying opportunity. *Toad is still baiting the* big fish: retail sales are not its main goal. But investors cannot help but ask what Mr Parker saw in four weeks to give him a fright. If it was merely a clash of personalities, *Dr Evans should choose* again and Toad's prospects should remain intact.

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

Mar	859-858	May	971 SLR
May	882-881	Jul	988-985
Jul	902-901	Sep	1004-1000
Sep	922-921	Dec	1025-1015
Dec	937-936		
Mar	956 SLR	Volume:	6858

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Mar	1590-1585	Nov	1630 BID
May	1600 SLR	Jan	1612 BID
Jul	unq	Mar	unq
Sep	1610 BID	Volume:	4596

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	297.5-96.9
Spot: 307.0		Dec	298.0-96.9
Mar	304.0-03.6	Mar	299.0-97.1
May	301.1-00.8	May	302.0-96.9
Aug	301.6-00.9	Volume:	2196

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on February 7

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	72.07	144.37	101.23
(+/-)	+2.10	+1.56	-2.28
Eng/Wales:	72.07	144.88	100.80
(+/-)	+2.10	+1.06	-2.44
(%)	+7.0	+18.0	+16.0
Scotland:	unq	141.44	104.83
(+/-)		+4.56	-0.95
(%)		+21.0	+15.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	20.70	-1.05
Brent 15 day (Mar)	20.65	-0.95
Brent 15 day (Apr)	20.25	-0.95
W Texas Intermediate (Mar)	21.85	-1.15
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	21.65	-1.05

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	210 (-3)	212 (-3)
Gasoil EEC	185 (-1)	187 (-2)
3.5 Fuel Oil	93 (-1)	96 (n/c)
Naphtha	218 (-10)	228 (-2)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Feb	188.00-88.25	May	176.25-76.75
Mar	181.25-81.50	Jun	176.50-76.75
Apr	178.25-78.50		Vol: 24815

BRENT (6.00pm)

Mar	20.65-20.67	Jun	19.70 SLR
Apr	20.27-20.28	Jul	19.48 SLR
May	19.94-19.95		Vol: 38034

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t)		LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t)	
Mar	92.70	Mar	93.00
May	95.00	May	93.75
Jul	97.00	Sep	91.00
Sep	91.50	Nov	93.00
Nov	93.50	Jan	95.00
Volume: 262		Volume: 0	

LIFFE POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Mar	unq	53.0
Apr	58.9	58.0
May	unq	64.5
		Volume: 29

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/kg)
Feb 79.25-79.75

LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Feb 97	1500	1495	1500
Mar 97	1557	1545	1559
Apr 97	1565	1555	1564
Jul 97	1304	1300	1304
Vol: 303 lots			Open Interest: 2851

Index 1425 +10

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE (Official) (Volume prev day) Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2415.0-2420.0	2231.0-2232.0	1746950
Lead ($/tonne)	639.00-640.00	650.00-651.00	104100
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1147.0-1148.0	1169.5-1170.0	569625
Tin ($/tonne)	5805.0-5815.0	5875.0-5880.0	19240
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1555.5-1556.5	1587.0-1587.5	1737250
Nickel ($/tonne)	7625.0-7626.0	7720.0-7725.0	94692

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
Alld Dom	390	35	41	46	5½	12½	17
(*410½)	420	18½	23½	30	17½	26½	31
ASDA	110	9½	12½	14	2	4	6
(*116)	120	4	7	9	6½	8½	11
Boots	650	54	65½	70½	5	14½	20
(*692½)	700	20½	33½	41	22	35½	42
Br Airways	550	58	66	74	4½	12½	16½
(*598½)	600	24	35½	44½	19½	32	36½
BP	700	42	55½	65	16½	27½	33
(*724)	750	17½	31½	42	42	53	58½
Br Steel	140	7	10½	12	6	12	13
(*140½)	160	1	3½	4½	20	24½	27½
C & W	460	37½	47½	56	9½	18½	24½
(*483½)	500	16	28	36	28	38	44½
CU	700	61½	75	85	14½	26	40½
(*752)	750	28½	49	58½	37½	49½	64½
ICI	700	46	55	62½	12½	20½	29½
(*741)	750	16	29½	39	39	46½	55½
Land Sec	750	55	64	69	4½	16	20
(*792½)	800	21½	32	40½	19½	39	43½
M & S	460	41½	47	54	5	9½	12½
(*492½)	500	15½	22½	32	19	27	30
Nat West	800	42½	63	73½	23	41	53½
(*827½)	850	18½	40½	51	56½	69	81½
Safeway plc	330	34½	39½	43	3½	11	14
(*357)	360	15½	21½	27	15	25	28
Sainsbury	300	28	29½	35½	4	10½	12½
(*320½)	330	11	17½	20	17	25½	28
Shell	1050	44	56	70½	26	37½	47½
(*1069½)	1100	19½	33	47	57	65½	75½
Smkl Bch	850	59	69½	77½	30½	44½	50½
(*855)	900	19	38½	55	60½	73	78½
Storehse	300	-	-	-	-	-	-
(unq)	330	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trafalgar	50	-	-	-	-	-	-
(unq)	60	0	-	-	0	-	-
Zeneca	1700	109	147	170½	46	69½	86
(*1762½)	1800	61½	96½	125	97½	118½	134½
Series		**Apr**	**Jul**	**Oct**	**Apr**	**Jul**	**Oct**
BAT Ind	500	29½	39	45½	25	32½	42
(*514½)	550	9	20	25½	58	63½	72½
Vodafone	280	21	30½	37	9½	16½	20½
(*289)	300	12	20½	27½	19½	26½	30½
Series		**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**	**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**
Grnd Met	420	26	39	47	0½	7½	12½
(*445½)	460	1½	16½	25	15	24½	31
Ladbroke	220	11½	16½	22½	1	6½	9½
(*231)	240	1	7	13	9½	17½	20
Utd Bisc	220	8	15	19½	2½	12	15
(*225)	240	1	7	11½	15½	25	27½

Series		Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
BAA	500	38½	50	54	5	13	16½
(*528½)	550	10½	22	28	27½	36½	47½
Thames W.	650	49½	63½	69½	9	25½	31
(*685)	700	21	35	39	30	51½	56½
Series		**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**	**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**
BTR	240	12	18½	23	0½	10	10½
(*251)	260	1½	8½	13½	10	21½	21½
Br Aero	1250	20½	61	86	14	46	58½
(*1253½)	1300	5	40	62½	49½	75	86
Br Telcom	420	18½	33	40	1	4	20
(*437½)	460	0	12½	20	23	29½	43
Cadbury	480	18½	27	35	1	14	17½
(*477)	500	1	11	17	23	30	41
Guinness	420	12	23	30	1½	17½	22½
(*429½)	460	0	7	14	30½	44	47½
GEC	360	29	39	44	0	4½	10
(*388½)	390	4½	20	25	6	15	23
Hanson	119	11	-	-	0	-	-
(*129½)	136	1	-	-	7	-	-
LASMO	240	16	24½	33	0½	7½	9
(*254½)	260	4	13½	23	8	15	18
LucasVarity	180	18	23	26½	0	4½	7
(*197½)	200	3	11½	16	5	12	16½
Pilkingtn	130	9	14	18½	0	3	5½
(*138½)	140	1½	8½	12	3	7	10
Prudential	550	33	46	57	1	16½	23
(*581½)	600	2	22½	32½	21	43	49
Redland	330	9½	24	29	3½	20	23½
(*338)	360	1	11½	16½	25	40	43
R-Royce	220	19½	26½	30½	0	6½	9
(*239)	240	3½	14½	19½	5	14½	18
Tesco	330	14	24	29½	2	12	15½
(*342½)	360	1	9	15½	18½	29	32
Williams	330	-	-	-	-	-	-
(unq)	360	-	-	-	-	-	-

FTSE INDEX (*4312½)

	4200	4250	4300	4350	4400	4450
Calls						
Feb	120½	82½	45½	19½	5½	1
Mar	141½	105½	75	49½	30	16½
Apr	163½	131½	100	79½	52	35
May	186	152½	118½	91½	66½	48½
Jun	213½	-	150½	-	98	-
Puts						
Feb	7½	14½	29	50½	103	153
Mar	35	49	68½	93	124½	163
Apr	50	77	95	119½	146½	180
May	74	90½	107½	131	157	189
Jun	90½	-	127½	-	177	-

Series		Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
Abby Nat	750	43½	59½	72½	21	32½	41½
(*780½)	800	18	36	48½	49½	59½	68
Amstrad	140	-	-	-	-	-	-
(unq)	160	-	-	-	-	-	-
Barclays	1150	52½	81	95	32	47	60
(*1182½)	1200	28½	56	70½	60	73	95½
Natl Pwr	500	28½	41	42½	15	28	33½
(*510½)	550	9	18	21	44	60	64
Series		**Apr**	**Jul**	**Oct**	**Apr**	**Jul**	**Oct**
Glaxo W	1000	40½	61½	75	37	50½	60½
(*1010½)	1050	18½	39½	53½	68	79½	89½
HSBC	1500	93½	134½	159½	41	67½	90
(*1562)	1600	42½	85½	111	95	119	141½
Reuter	600	57½	67½	75	18½	24½	28
(*642)	650	27½	40	47½	41½	46½	49½
Royal & Sun	460	46	52½	59½	8½	16	20
(*500)	500	19	29½	38½	26½	34	39
Series		**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**	**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**
Blue Circ	390	16	28	33½	1	15	17½
(*405½)	420	1	13½	19½	16½	32	34
Series		**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**	**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**
Kingfishr	650	20	35½	50	7½	24½	32
(*666)	700	1	19½	27½	34½	54	60½
Series		**Mar**	**Jun**		**Mar**	**Jun**	
Br Gas	220	27½	33	-	1	6	-
(*245)	240	13	21	-	5½	14	-
Series		**Mar**	**Jun**	**Sep**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Sep**
Dixons	460	42½	56½	63½	4½	11	18½
(*496)	500	16	32½	40½	17	27	35½
EMI Group	1100	39½	69½	88½	29	45½	61½
(*1100)	1150	16	46½	65½	59	73	89½
Tarmac	100	9½	7½	10	3½	7½	7½
(*100)	110	1	3½	6½	10½	14½	14
Hillsdwn	180	8	11½	13	3	9½	10½
(*184½)	200	1	3	5	16	23½	24½
Lonrho	120	11	15	17	0½	3½	5
(*129½)	130	4½	9	11	4	7½	9½
Sears	90	-	-	-	-	-	-
(unq)	100	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thorn EMI	1500	-	-	-	-	-	-
(unq)	1600	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tomkins	280	15½	24½	29	4	9	15½
(*290)	300	5½	14	18½	13	18½	25
Lloyds TSB	460	34½	45½	55	7	15½	27½
(*493)	500	10½	24½	33	24½	34½	41
Scot Pwr	360	18	29½	35½	5	11½	18½
(*371½)	390	4	14½	20½	22	34½	42
Unilever	1350	61	77½	95	10	30	36
(*1394)	1400	31½	49½	66½	27½	54	59

February 10, 1997 Tot: 58296 Call: 34276 Put: 24010 FTSE Call: 10807 Put: 9100
*Underlying security price.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
Long Gilt	Mar 97	113-02	113-15	112-28	112-29	54843
Previous open interest: 191835	Jun 97	112-30	112-30	112-13	112-14	3861
German Govt Bond (Bund)	Mar 97	102.48	102.78	102.42	102.66	99933
Previous open interest: 245368	Jun 97	101.63	101.83	101.63	101.78	1850
Italian Govt Bond (BTP)	Mar 97	131.15	131.60	130.91	131.08	41793
Previous open interest: 118427	Jun 97	130.90	131.04	130.70	130.58	526
Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Mar 97	126.30	126.39	126.30	126.39	1282
	Jun 97	124.87	124.93	124.86	124.94	489
Three Mth Sterling	Mar 97	93.70	93.73	93.69	93.70	11326
	Jun 97	93.49	93.54	93.46	93.47	19381
Previous open interest: 484390	Sep 97	93.28	93.35	93.27	93.28	21535
Three Mth Euromark	Feb 97	96.88	96.88	96.88	96.88	50
Previous open interest: 1179993	Mar 97	96.88	96.89	96.88	96.89	6733
Three Mth Eurolira	Mar 97	93.05	93.08	93.01	93.02	10201
Previous open interest: 274086	Jun 97	93.67	93.68	93.60	93.61	9090
Three Mth Euroyen	Jun 97				99.43	0
	Sep 97				99.37	0
Three Mth Euroswiss	Mar 97	98.20	98.29	98.20	98.28	6358
Previous open interest: 84335	Jun 97	98.18	98.30	98.18	98.28	4770
Three Mth ECU	Mar 97	95.97	95.97	95.96	95.97	457
Previous open interest: 33951	Jun 97	96.04	96.05	96.03	96.04	345
FTSE 100	Mar 97	4298.0	4325.0	4290.0	4307.0	8491
Previous open interest: 65444	Jun 97	4315.0	4343.5	4315.0	4326.0	185

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6 Finance Hse 6½
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6[illegible] Low 4 Week fixed: 6[illegible]
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5[illegible]; 3 mth 5[illegible]. Sell: 2 mth 5[illegible]; 3 mth: 5[illegible].

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5[illegible]-5[illegible]	6-5[illegible]	6[illegible]-5[illegible]	6[illegible]-6[illegible]	
Sterling Money Rates:	6[illegible]-6[illegible]	6[illegible]-6[illegible]	6[illegible]-6[illegible]	6[illegible]-6[illegible]	6[illegible]-6[illegible]
Interbank:	6[illegible]-6[illegible]	6[illegible]-6[illegible]	6[illegible]-6[illegible]	6[illegible]-6[illegible]	6[illegible]-6[illegible]
Overnight: open 6[illegible], close 4					
Local Authority Deps:	6[illegible]	n/a	6[illegible]	6[illegible]	6[illegible]
Sterling CDs:	6[illegible]-6[illegible]	6[illegible]-6[illegible]	6[illegible]-6[illegible]	6[illegible]-6[illegible]	6[illegible]-6[illegible]
Dollar CDs:	5.34	n/a	5.38	5.51	5.76
Building Society CDs:	6[illegible]-6[illegible]	6[illegible]-6[illegible]	6[illegible]-6[illegible]	6[illegible]-6[illegible]	6[illegible]-6[illegible]

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%) BAA

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5[illegible]-4[illegible]	5[illegible]-5[illegible]	5[illegible]-5[illegible]	5[illegible]-5[illegible]	5-4
Deutschemark:	3[illegible]-2[illegible]	3[illegible]-2[illegible]	3[illegible]-3	3[illegible]-3	3[illegible]-2[illegible]
French Franc:	3[illegible]-3[illegible]	3[illegible]-3[illegible]	3[illegible]-3[illegible]	3[illegible]-3[illegible]	3[illegible]-2[illegible]
Swiss Franc:	1[illegible]-1[illegible]	1[illegible]-1[illegible]	1[illegible]-1[illegible]	1[illegible]-1[illegible]	2-1
Yen:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $341.30-341.60 Close: $340.90-341.40 High: $341.45-341.95
Low: $340.05-340.55 AM: $341.00 PM: $340.40

Krugerrand: $340.00-343.00 (£208.00-210.00)

Platinum: $352.50 (£216.25) Silver: $4.95 (£3.025) Palladium: $134.25 (£82.25)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Feb 10	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3.0313-3.0395	3.0369-3.0395	[illegible]pr	2[illegible]-2[illegible]pr
Brussels	55.690-55.879	55.779-55.879	15-10pr	46-39pr
Copenhagen	10.288-10.319	10.306-10.316	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Dublin	1.0177-1.0210	1.0183-1.0202	6-1pr	15-9pr
Frankfurt	2.6987-2.7074	2.7041-2.7074	[illegible]pr	2-1[illegible]pr
Lisbon	270.96-271.86	271.50-271.83	[illegible]ds	[illegible]ds
Madrid	228.24-228.95	228.68-228.95	4-5ds	11-29ds
Milan	2648.3-2661.4	2657.7-2661.6	20-35ds	57-79ds
Montreal	2.2051-2.2108	2.2060-2.2082	0.35-0.50pr	1.14-1.06pr
New York	1.6322-1.6352	1.6329-1.6339	0.103-0.082pr	0.30-0.27pr
Oslo	10.660-10.719	10.709-10.719	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Paris	9.1120-9.1360	9.1271-9.1360	2[illegible]-1[illegible]pr	6[illegible]-6[illegible]pr
Stockholm	11.983-12.016	11.996-12.016	[illegible]pr	1[illegible]-1pr
Tokyo	200.03-200.96	200.52-200.74	[illegible]pr	2[illegible]-2[illegible]pr
Vienna	18.997-19.052	19.028-19.052	[illegible]pr	1[illegible]-1[illegible]pr
Zurich	2.3216-2.3340	2.3310-2.3340	[illegible]pr	2[illegible]-2[illegible]pr

Source: Extel. Premium = pr. Discount = ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3203-1.3211
Austria	11.64-11.65
Belgium (Com)	34.14-34.18
Canada	1.3513-1.3518
Denmark	6.3080-6.3110
France	5.5867-5.5877
Germany	1.6551-1.6555
Hong Kong	7.7460-7.7470
Ireland	1.6005-1.6025
Italy	1626.00-1627.00
Japan	122.59-122.69
Malaysia	2.4852-2.4862
Netherlands	1.8584-1.8589
Norway	6.5495-6.5545
Portugal	166.18-166.28
Singapore	1.4080-1.4090
Spain	139.99-140.02
Sweden	7.3513-7.3588
Switzerland	1.4265-1.4275

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6325-1.6352
Australia dollar	2.1538-2.1559
Bahrain dinar	0.6095-0.6215
Brazil real*	1.7072-1.7116
China yuan	13.385-13.685
Cyprus pound	0.8115-0.8215
Finland markka	7.9400-8.0560
Greece drachma	419.5-426.5
Hong Kong dollar	12.6360-12.6416
India rupee	58.08-59.04
Indonesia rupiah	3853.0-3921.6
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4895-0.4995
Malaysia ringgit	4.0536-4.0577
New Zealand dollar	2.3840-2.3872
Pakistan rupee	65.00 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.8850-6.0090
Singapore dollar	2.2966-2.2996
S Africa rand (com)	7.1790-7.2810
U A E dirham	5.9350-6.0590

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

FTSE VOLUMES

3i	247	Lloyds TSB	9,700
ASDA Gp	24,900	LucasVarity	4,300
Abbey Ntl	3,100	Marks Spr	2,200
Allied Dom	4,200	Mercury Asset	660
Argos	523	NatWst Bk	4,800
AB Foods	1,200	Nat Grid	3,000
BAA	1,200	Nat Power	6,900
BAT Inds	6,900	Next	1,500
BOC	1,300	Orange	9,100
BP	9,600	P & O	1,500
BSkyB	3,000	Pearson	265
BTR	2,200	PowerGen	2,600
BT	11,500	Prudential	7,100
Bk of Scot	7,000	RMC	132
Barclays	3,900	RTZ	1,200
Bass	1,300	Railtrack	4,900
Blue Circle	1,400	Rank Group	2,200
Boots	2,900	Reckitt Col	940
BAe	1,700	Redland	1,600
BA	4,500	Reed Intl	1,800
Brit Gas	22,200	Rentokil Inl	1,100
Brit Steel	5,700	Reuters	4,300
Burmah Cstl	1,500	Rolls Royce	8,600
Burton	2,800	Royal & Sun	6,700
Cable Wire	5,200	Royal Bk Sct	3,700
Cadbury	1,100	Safeway	4,300
Carlton Cms	1,300	Sainsbury	1,900
Cm Union	2,300	Schroders	101
Dixons	2,400	Scot & New	301
EMI	2,300	Scot Power	5,400
Enterpr Oil	2,700	Svrn Trent	828
GKN	1,300	Shell Trans	2,800
GRE	2,400	Siebe	830
GUS	2,300	SmKl Bch	4,100
Gen Acc	1,700	Smith Nph	2,000
Gen Elec	4,000	Smiths Inds	768
Glaxo Well	4,900	Std Chartd	2,800
Granada	4,800	TI Gp	560
Grand Met	2,600	Tate & Lyle	945
Guinness	12,800	Tesco	6,900
HSBC	4,800	Thames W	717
Hanson	8,900	Tomkins	9,100
Hays	1,100	Unilever	1,600
ICI	3,000	Utd Utilities	1,300
Imp Tob	3,200	Utd News	1,700
Kingfisher	1,800	Vodafone	10,200
LASMO	2,500	Whitbread	615
Ladbroke	4,000	Wlms Hld	2,400
Land Secs	1,300	Wolseley	353
Legal & Gn	5,000	Zeneca	1,100

WALL STREET

	Feb 10 midday	Feb 7 close
AMP Inc	39	39[illegible]
AMR Corp	79[illegible]	79[illegible]
ASA	33[illegible]	34[illegible]
AT & T	38[illegible]	38[illegible]
Abbott Labs	55[illegible]	55[illegible]
Advanced Micro	34	34[illegible]
Aetna Life	79	78
Ahmanson (HF)	37[illegible]	37[illegible]
Air Prod & Chem	76[illegible]	76[illegible]
AirTouch Comm	28[illegible]	28[illegible]
Alberto-Culver B	54[illegible]	54[illegible]
Albertson's	36[illegible]	35[illegible]
Alcan Alumnm	35[illegible]	35[illegible]
Allied Signal	71[illegible]	71[illegible]
Alum Co of Am	68	67[illegible]
Amax Gold Inc	6[illegible]	6[illegible]
Amerada Hess	57[illegible]	58[illegible]
Amer Brands	52[illegible]	52[illegible]
Amer El Power	41[illegible]	41[illegible]
Amer Express	64[illegible]	65[illegible]
Amer Genl Corp	41[illegible]	41[illegible]
Amer Home Pr	65	64[illegible]
Amer Intl	125[illegible]	125
Amer Stores	44	42[illegible]
Amer Standard	46[illegible]	47
Ameritech	60[illegible]	60[illegible]
Amoco	86	86[illegible]
Anheuser-Busch	43[illegible]	43[illegible]
Apple Computer	16	15[illegible]
Archer Daniels	19	19[illegible]
Armco	4[illegible]	4[illegible]
Armstrng Wrld	70[illegible]	70[illegible]
Asarco	29[illegible]	29[illegible]
Atl Richfield	128[illegible]	128[illegible]
Auto Data Pro	41[illegible]	42[illegible]
Avery Dennison	37[illegible]	38
Avon Products	62[illegible]	63
Baker Hughes	35[illegible]	36[illegible]
Baltim Gas & El	27[illegible]	27[illegible]
Banc One	43[illegible]	43[illegible]
BankAmerica	118[illegible]	118[illegible]
Bank of NY	39[illegible]	39[illegible]
Bankers Tr NY	89[illegible]	88[illegible]
Barnett Banks	47[illegible]	46[illegible]
Bausch & Lomb	36[illegible]	36[illegible]
Baxter Intl	47[illegible]	47
Becton Dicknsn	49[illegible]	49[illegible]
Bell Atlantic	69[illegible]	68
Bell Industries	22[illegible]	22[illegible]
BellSouth	44[illegible]	43[illegible]
Black & Decker	33[illegible]	33[illegible]
Block (H&R)	29[illegible]	29[illegible]
Boeing	108[illegible]	109[illegible]
Boise Cascade	34[illegible]	34[illegible]
Bristol Myrs Sq	126[illegible]	126[illegible]
Browning Ferris	30[illegible]	30[illegible]
Brunswick	27	26[illegible]
Burlington Nthn	87[illegible]	87[illegible]
CMS Energy Corp	32[illegible]	32[illegible]
CNA Financial	106[illegible]	106[illegible]
CPC Intl	78[illegible]	78
CSX	46[illegible]	46[illegible]
Campbell Soup	84[illegible]	83[illegible]
Can Pacific	25[illegible]	26
Carolina Pwr	36[illegible]	36[illegible]
Caterpillar	79[illegible]	79[illegible]
Central & SW	24[illegible]	24[illegible]
Champion Intl	42[illegible]	42[illegible]
Chase Manhat	98[illegible]	97[illegible]
Chevron Corp	66[illegible]	66[illegible]
Chrysler	34[illegible]	34
Chubb Corp	54[illegible]	55[illegible]
Cigna Corp	155[illegible]	155
Citicorp	120	120[illegible]
Clorox	118[illegible]	118[illegible]
Coastal Corp	47[illegible]	47[illegible]
Coca Cola	59	58[illegible]
Coca Cola Ent	58	58
Colgate-Palmolive	101[illegible]	103[illegible]
Columbia Gas	63[illegible]	63[illegible]
ColumbiaHCA	41[illegible]	41
Compaq Comp	79[illegible]	82[illegible]
Comp Ass Intl	47[illegible]	47[illegible]
Conagra	51[illegible]	51[illegible]
Conrail	106[illegible]	106[illegible]
Cons Edison	31[illegible]	31[illegible]
Cons Nat Gas	53[illegible]	53[illegible]
Cooper Inds	44[illegible]	44[illegible]
Corestates	51[illegible]	51[illegible]
Corning Inc	34[illegible]	34[illegible]
Crown Cork	58[illegible]	57[illegible]
Dana Corp	32[illegible]	32
Dayton Hudson	38[illegible]	38[illegible]
Deere	41[illegible]	41[illegible]
Delta Air Lines	80[illegible]	81[illegible]
Deluxe Corp	31[illegible]	31[illegible]
Digital Equip	35[illegible]	35[illegible]
Dillard Dept St	29[illegible]	29[illegible]
Disney (Walt)	76[illegible]	75[illegible]
Dominion Res	40[illegible]	40[illegible]
Donnelley (RR)	31[illegible]	30[illegible]
Dover Corp	50[illegible]	50[illegible]
Dow Chemical	79[illegible]	79[illegible]
Dow Jones	39[illegible]	39[illegible]
Dresser	31[illegible]	31[illegible]
Duke Power	45[illegible]	45[illegible]
Dun & Brdstreet	24[illegible]	24[illegible]
Du Pont	111[illegible]	112[illegible]
Eastman Chem	55[illegible]	55[illegible]
Eastman Kodak	90[illegible]	89[illegible]

	Feb 10 midday	Feb 7 close
Eaton Corp	71[illegible]	71
Edison Intl	21[illegible]	21[illegible]
Elect Data Sys	47	48[illegible]
Emerson Elec	103[illegible]	103
Engelhard Corp	20[illegible]	20[illegible]
Enron Corp	41	41
Entergy	26[illegible]	26[illegible]
Ethyl Corp	9[illegible]	9[illegible]
Exxon	101[illegible]	101[illegible]
FMC Corp	71[illegible]	70[illegible]
FPL Group	45[illegible]	44[illegible]
Federal Express	51[illegible]	51
First Bk Sys	78[illegible]	77[illegible]
First Union Rlty	14[illegible]	14[illegible]
Fleet Finl Grp	55[illegible]	56
Fluor Corp	72[illegible]	71[illegible]
Ford Motor	32[illegible]	32[illegible]
GTE Corp	47[illegible]	47[illegible]
Gannett	78[illegible]	79[illegible]
Gap Inc Del	32[illegible]	31[illegible]
Gencorp	19[illegible]	19[illegible]
Gen Dynamics	69[illegible]	70
Gen Electric	105[illegible]	105
Gen Mills	67[illegible]	67[illegible]
Gen Motors	56[illegible]	56[illegible]
Gen Reinsurance	164[illegible]	164[illegible]
Gen Signal	45[illegible]	45[illegible]
Genuine Parts	45[illegible]	45[illegible]
Georgia Pac	76[illegible]	76[illegible]
Gillette	80[illegible]	80[illegible]
Glaxo Welc ADR	32[illegible]	32[illegible]
Goodrich (BF)	41	41[illegible]
Goodyear Tire	52[illegible]	52[illegible]
Grt Atl Pac Tea	30[illegible]	30[illegible]
Great Wstn Fin	32[illegible]	32[illegible]
Halliburton	68[illegible]	68[illegible]
Harcourt General	46[illegible]	46[illegible]
Heinz (HJ)	41[illegible]	41[illegible]
Hercules	45[illegible]	45[illegible]
Hershey Foods	44	43[illegible]
Hewlett Packard	51[illegible]	51[illegible]
Hilton Hotels	28	27[illegible]
Home Depot	52[illegible]	52[illegible]
Homestake Mng	14[illegible]	14
Honeywell	74[illegible]	74
Household Intl	98	98[illegible]
Houston Inds	23[illegible]	23[illegible]
Humana	18[illegible]	18[illegible]
ITT Corp	55[illegible]	55[illegible]
Ikon Office	44[illegible]	44
Illinois Tool	83[illegible]	83[illegible]
Illinova	25[illegible]	25[illegible]
INCO	34[illegible]	34[illegible]
Ingersoll Rand	48[illegible]	47[illegible]
Inland Steel	18[illegible]	18[illegible]
Intel Corp	157[illegible]	156[illegible]
IBM	149[illegible]	148[illegible]
Intl Flav & Fr	46	46
Intl Paper	42	42
James River Va	32[illegible]	32
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	60[illegible]	59[illegible]
Kellogg	71[illegible]	70[illegible]
Kerr-McGee	65[illegible]	65[illegible]
Kimberly-Clark	98	97[illegible]
Kmart	10[illegible]	10[illegible]
Knight-Ridder	38[illegible]	38[illegible]
Lilly (Eli)	89[illegible]	89
Limited Inc	17[illegible]	17[illegible]
Lincoln Nat	57	55[illegible]
Litton	43[illegible]	43[illegible]
Liz Claiborne	41[illegible]	41[illegible]
Lockheed Martin	89	89[illegible]
Louisiana Pac	21	20[illegible]
MCI Comm	36[illegible]	36[illegible]
Manpower Inc	35[illegible]	35[illegible]
Marriott Intl	54[illegible]	54[illegible]
Marsh & McLnn	113[illegible]	113[illegible]
Masco Corp	34[illegible]	34[illegible]
May Dept St	45[illegible]	45[illegible]
Maytag Corp	21[illegible]	21[illegible]
McDonalds	45[illegible]	45[illegible]
McDonnell D	67[illegible]	68[illegible]
McGraw Hill	50[illegible]	50[illegible]
Mead Corp	57[illegible]	57[illegible]
Medtronic	66[illegible]	65[illegible]
Mellon Bk	78	77
Merck Inc	93[illegible]	93[illegible]
Merrill Lynch	87[illegible]	86[illegible]
Microsoft	100[illegible]	100[illegible]
Minnesota Mine	84[illegible]	84[illegible]
Mobil Corp	128[illegible]	128[illegible]
Monsanto	37[illegible]	37[illegible]
Morgan (JP)	103[illegible]	104[illegible]
Motorola Inc	66[illegible]	66[illegible]
Natl Semi	24[illegible]	24[illegible]
Natl Service Ind	37[illegible]	37[illegible]
Navistar Intl	9[illegible]	9[illegible]
NY Times A	41	40[illegible]
Newmont Mng	39[illegible]	39[illegible]
Niag Mohawk	10[illegible]	10[illegible]
Nike B	66[illegible]	65[illegible]
NL Industries	12[illegible]	12
Noram Energy	15[illegible]	15[illegible]
Nordstrom	36[illegible]	36[illegible]
Norfolk Sthrn	89[illegible]	89[illegible]
Nthn States Pwr	46[illegible]	46[illegible]
Norwest Corp	49[illegible]	48[illegible]
Nynex Corp	52[illegible]	51[illegible]
Occidental Pet	25[illegible]	25[illegible]
Ohio Edison	23	23

	Feb 10 midday	Feb 7 close
Oracle	40[illegible]	40
Oryx Energy Co	22[illegible]	22[illegible]
Overseas Ship	18[illegible]	18[illegible]
Owens Corning	45[illegible]	45[illegible]
PHH Corp	48[illegible]	48[illegible]
PPG Industries	53[illegible]	53[illegible]
PNC Bank	42	42
PP&L Res	22[illegible]	22[illegible]
Paccar Inc	69[illegible]	69[illegible]
Pacificorp	21[illegible]	21
Pac Enterprises	30[illegible]	30[illegible]
Pac Telesis	39[illegible]	39
Pall Corp	22[illegible]	22[illegible]
Parker Hannifin	43[illegible]	43[illegible]
Peco Energy	23[illegible]	22[illegible]
Penney (JC)	47[illegible]	47[illegible]
Pennzoil	61[illegible]	61[illegible]
Pepsico	32[illegible]	32[illegible]
Pfizer	91[illegible]	91[illegible]
Pharm & Upjhn	36[illegible]	36[illegible]
Phelps Dodge	69[illegible]	70[illegible]
Philip Morris	119[illegible]	121[illegible]
Phillips Pet	43[illegible]	43[illegible]
Pitney Bowes	59[illegible]	59[illegible]
Polaroid	42[illegible]	42[illegible]
Procter & Gmbl	122[illegible]	122[illegible]
Providian	54[illegible]	54[illegible]
Pub Serv E & G	27[illegible]	27[illegible]
Quaker Oats	35	34[illegible]
Ralston Purina	79[illegible]	79[illegible]
Raychem Corp	85[illegible]	85[illegible]
Raytheon	49[illegible]	49[illegible]
Reebok Intl	48[illegible]	47[illegible]
Reynolds Metals	61[illegible]	61[illegible]
Rockwell Intl	69[illegible]	68[illegible]
Rohm & Haas	86[illegible]	87
Royal Dutch	177[illegible]	177[illegible]
Rubbermaid	23[illegible]	24[illegible]
SBC Comms	55	53[illegible]
Safeco Corp	38[illegible]	38[illegible]
St Paul's Cos	68[illegible]	67[illegible]
Salomon Inc	58[illegible]	57[illegible]
Sara Lee Corp	39[illegible]	39[illegible]
Schering Plough	75[illegible]	76
Schlumberger	104[illegible]	104[illegible]
Seagram	41	40[illegible]
Sears Roebuck	52[illegible]	51[illegible]
Shell Trans	104[illegible]	103[illegible]
Sherwin Wlms	56[illegible]	56[illegible]
Skyline Corp	28	25[illegible]
Snap-On-Tools	38[illegible]	37[illegible]
Southern Co	21[illegible]	21[illegible]
Sprint Corp	43	42[illegible]
Stanley Works	36[illegible]	36[illegible]
Sun Company	26[illegible]	26[illegible]
Sun Microsys	34[illegible]	34
Suntrust	51[illegible]	51[illegible]
Supervalu	31[illegible]	31[illegible]
Sysco Corp	33[illegible]	33[illegible]
TRW Inc	51[illegible]	50[illegible]
TCC Inds	2[illegible]	2[illegible]
Tandem Comp	13[illegible]	13[illegible]
Tandy Corp	47[illegible]	47[illegible]
Temple Inland	56[illegible]	56[illegible]
Tenneco	39	38[illegible]
Texaco	102[illegible]	102[illegible]
Texas Inst	77[illegible]	79[illegible]
Texas Utilities	40[illegible]	40[illegible]
Textron	96[illegible]	96[illegible]
Time Warner	39[illegible]	39[illegible]
Times-Mirror A	48	47[illegible]
Timken	53[illegible]	53[illegible]
Torchmark	53[illegible]	53
Toys R Us	26[illegible]	25
Transamerica	85[illegible]	85
Travelers	52[illegible]	52[illegible]
Tribune	39[illegible]	39
Tyco Intl	57[illegible]	56[illegible]
UST Inc	30[illegible]	30[illegible]
UAL	58[illegible]	58[illegible]
US Inds	33[illegible]	34[illegible]
US West Comm	32[illegible]	32[illegible]
US West Media	18[illegible]	18[illegible]
USX Marathon	27[illegible]	27[illegible]
Unicom	22[illegible]	22[illegible]
Unilever NV	168[illegible]	167[illegible]
Union Camp	48[illegible]	48[illegible]
Union Carbide	45[illegible]	45[illegible]
Union Pacific	60[illegible]	60[illegible]
Unisys Corp	7	6[illegible]
USAIR Group	20	20[illegible]
USF&G Corp	22[illegible]	22[illegible]
US Life	42[illegible]	41[illegible]
United Tech	71[illegible]	71[illegible]
Unocal Corp	42	42[illegible]
VF Corp	68[illegible]	68[illegible]
WMX Tech	31[illegible]	30[illegible]
Wal-Mart Stores	24[illegible]	24
Warner-Lambert	84[illegible]	84[illegible]
Wells Fargo	309[illegible]	309[illegible]
Westinghouse El	17[illegible]	17[illegible]
Weyerhaeuser	46[illegible]	46
Whirlpool	51[illegible]	51[illegible]
Whitman	23[illegible]	23[illegible]
Winn Dixie	31[illegible]	30[illegible]
Woolworth	20[illegible]	20[illegible]
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	59[illegible]	59[illegible]
Xerox	56[illegible]	56[illegible]
Yellow Corp	16[illegible]	16[illegible]

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Premiership goal for Sykes

PAUL SYKES, the multi-millionaire, is playing cupid to the UK's leading soccer clubs, linking them up to the World Wide Web.

The chief executive of Planet Online, the Leeds-based Internet service, of which Lord Parkinson is chairman, has already cut his first deal with Leeds United. Until Caspian Group bought the club last summer, Sykes was rumoured to be interested.

Having recently added Microsoft and Camelot to his list of clients, Sykes says that he expects to be doing business with another seven Premiership clubs before the end of the season.

EMU praise

GERRY ROBINSON, the head of Granada, Liam Strong, of Sears, and Peter Sutherland, of Goldman Sachs International, took time out yesterday to hear Richard Bruton, the Irish Minister for Enterprise and Employment, sing the praises of EMU. Speaking at the launch of *Business 97*, the directory of 100 Irish business personalities, Bruton said he expected economic and monetary union to reduce the cost of money in the Republic where interest rates had been higher than in Germany. "It will be healthy for the long-term vibrancy of the Irish economy," Bruton said.

Jetty-ing off

BRIAN Mackley is moving to TIR Securities. Known as the "Earl of Essex", the former main board director of what was Smith New Court, is a connoisseur of fat cigars and City restaurants. Mackley has slipped on a few banana skins along the way, however. While staying at his holiday home in Menorca, Mackley, who is better used to whizzing through the suburbs in his lipstick red Porsche, decided to go by boat to his nearby friend's place. However, after a long and bibulous lunch, he jumped back in his boat, forgetting to untie the rope, and sped off with half the jetty.

"I believe they have an account here"

Following star

ANOTHER defection from Quilter Goodison to Laing & Cruickshank. After three star players defected almost 18 months ago, David Malpas, 35, has followed suit. The Quilter's whiz-kid, whose father Peter was number two to Sir Nicholas Goodison, yesterday handed in his notice. So, when will owners Commercial Union throw in the towel and make a deal with Laings?

Lyons's share

HAVING fired off an initially hostile, and ultimately successful, approach to the old National & Provincial, Abbey National chief executive Peter Birch has appointed Lazards, N&P's former adviser, to guide the Abbey through its hostile bid for Scottish Amicable. Just for good measure Alastair Lyons, the former head of N&P, will be in charge of ScotAm should the Abbey succeed.

MORAG PRESTON

Kenneth Branagh as the Prince with his leading lady, Julie Christie, as Gertrude in the actor-director's four-hour film version of *Hamlet*

Coming soon near you — a multiscreen boom

Cinema chains are planning record expansion, but there are fears filmgoers will be swamped by too many options, says Adam Jones

Whatever you do in Sheffield, don't ask what's on at the cinema. The answer could drag on longer than Kenneth Branagh's four-hour *Hamlet*.

Sheffield, a city of 550,000, is challenging for the title of Multiplex Capital of Britain. If all planned development goes ahead, it will boast 79 cinema screens at just five sites. That's one screen for every 7,000 inhabitants.

The UK average is closer to one for every 25,000. But not for long. Cinema operators are planning record expansion this year, in what has been dubbed "the second wave of the multiplexes". The boom is leading to fears that the British filmgoer, traditionally underserved, will be swamped by too many options in spite of continuing growth in admission figures.

The multiscreen cinema operators could feel the pinch. Dodona Research, an industry analyst, says they enjoy profit margins of 25 to 30 per cent before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation are taken into account.

Defined as new cinemas with five or more screens, multiplexes came to Britain in 1985, with a pair in Salford Quays and Milton Keynes.

Between 1987 and 1991, 500 new screens were constructed, according to Dodona, before a recession-induced slump that extended to 1995. Investment in new screens, either through new multiplexes or extensions to old ones, then surged back to previous peak levels in 1996.

In a comprehensive survey of the cinema industry last October, Dodona expected record growth for 1997: 30 multiplex openings, accounting for 293 new screens and 70,000 seats.

Cinema operators have done nothing to dispel this belief subsequently. Some chains, such as ABC, are deliberately seeking areas where there is little competition. But in places like Sheffield, rivalry is going to be intense. The city currently has an 11-screen Warner Bros cinema, a ten-screen UCI, and a ten-screen Odeon. Virgin has been granted planning permission for a 20-screen cinema at Sheffield Arena, and Warner, now partnered by Village Roadshow, an Australian chain, aims to develop the 11-screen site at the Meadowhall shopping centre into a 30-screen "megaplex".

On top of that, there is a planning application for a nine-screen Warner Village as part of the redevelopment of the city's covered market.

Barry Jenkins, chief executive of ABC cinemas, says: "I think they're mad. I was offered two sites in Sheffield and I said no to both."

Sheffield City Council is worried about the oversupply. It fears for the health of the Odeon, the only city centre multiscreen cinema. Instead of job creation, the activity could just lead to job redistribution.

Mr Jenkins says that Birmingham and Manchester are also saturated. Instead, the company is planning to open multiplexes in Edinburgh, Mansfield and Rochdale. At present, ABC has the most sites in Britain. Odeon, however, has the most screens, UCI the most admissions. Odeon is opening new multiplexes in Southampton, Leicester, Camden, Wrexham and Kettering, along with two yet to be named sites: approximately 60 screens in total.

UCI says it will build at least 104 screens between now and the millennium. Steve Knibbs, managing director, says: "The unknown in all this is how megaplexes [20-plus screens] will do." None of the UCI plans is that big. Other big players include National Amusements and Cine-UK.

A big factor in the growth of the multiplexes is their bankability as anchors for new leisure developments. Property companies have turned to leisure as an alternative to commercial letting. High-profile sites such as Battersea Power Station have been earmarked for cinema-led schemes. One developer arranged a deal that would net a £3 million profit by selling a stake in a leisure project before the original deal had closed.

But the bottom line has been the growth in cinema admissions in the past decade. Dodona expects total cinema admissions to rise from about 132 million in 1996 to 180 million in the year 2000. In 1984, there were just 54 million. It also expects the total number of multiplex screens to rise from a current level of about 900 to 1,500 in the year 2000.

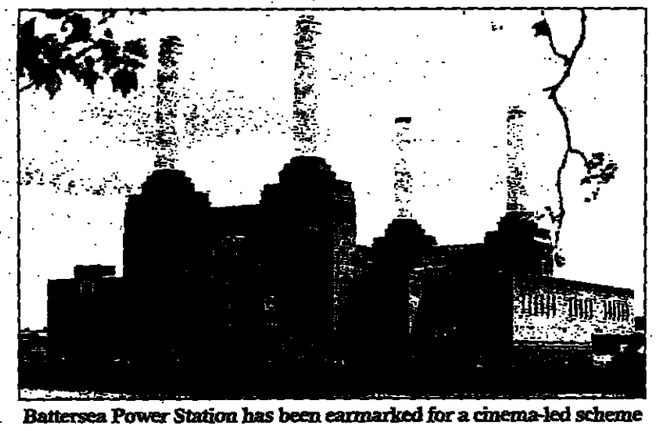
Karsten Grummit, of Dodona, says: "There are still a lot of locations that don't have enough coverage. The multiplex industry is very profitable, there is no indication as yet that demand is fully satisfied."

The multiplex operators are also prone to bluffing. Announcing a development in a city can thwart a rival, even if you have no plans to build the cinema. Many will not happen.

But there is no doubt that the multiplex's idyllic youth — not one has failed — could be entering a trickier adolescence. As they evolve into megaplexes the difficulty of showing 20 to 30 desirable films at a time could lead to empty seats by the thousand in spite of a general growth in cinema-going. One cinema boss says: "It will be a damn sight more competitive." He said last year's wave of openings were already hitting existing multiplexes. Up to 50 per cent of business has evaporated at the worst-hit ones. He says: "They are not going to curl up and die."

Cinema ticket prices have come under pressure from video rentals. But with new multiplexes building so close to existing operations a price war cannot be discounted, particularly as higher profit margins on sweets and popcorn could take up the slack.

The catalyst for that sort of competition might not be far away. Barry Jenkins, of ABC, says: "Sooner or later, a multiplex is going to close from lack of business. When it happens, I think it's going to send shock waves through the industry."



Battersea Power Station has been earmarked for a cinema-led scheme

Keeping up UK allure

Toyota's recent warning that Britain's attraction as a location for future inward investment may depend partly on whether it is in or out of the European single currency threw up some crucial questions about what constitutes national competitiveness.

Eddie George last week rebutted the notion that the exchange rate would be key to determining whether UK plc remained a magnet to overseas companies, arguing that Britain's supply-side policies were far more important.

This point is developed in a paper by George Magnus and Paul Donovan, of UBS Global Research. They argue that "concerns over the strength or weakness of the euro, or participation in EMU, are of little value to the European competitiveness debate". Traditional judgments on competitiveness have always depended on exchange rates and trade, but this is becoming irrelevant in a world increasingly dominated by multinational companies. Global firms are arguably far more efficient than governments in making long-term investment decisions, acting as conduits for technology transfer, and, as such, are the key to long-term competitiveness.

The *UNCTAD World Investment Report* pointed to the scale of this phenomenon, finding in 1993 that global firms accounted for two thirds of world exports of goods and services. Half of this comprised exports from one part of a company to another. In considering real competitiveness, look at France, which is running a huge trade surplus, but still has an unemployment rate of nearly 13 per cent, and the US, which has run a large trade deficit for years but whose unemployment rate fell to 5.4 per cent in January. Which is more competitive: France or America?

Of course, there is often a divergence of interest between national economies and international companies. As UBS says, the aim of national competitiveness is to raise living standards — primarily by creating jobs — while that of corporate competitiveness relies on raising profits, often by cutting jobs. This conundrum shot through much of the hand-wringing discussion of different economic models at the World Economic Forum in Davos, but nobody came up with a vision that sidestepped the preferences of international business.

France has gamely tried to argue that Europe's future salvation depends on engineering a soft euro against other world currencies, and it is certainly true that this would be preferable to a resolutely hard euro. But the world business community is far more worried about its inflexible and expensive labour markets for the reason that they make investing prohibitively expensive.

There are still those who argue that a well-run domestic economy can provide a perfectly good engine for growth, that it is somehow a sign of inherent weakness if a government has to rely on bribing foreign companies to invest on its shores. But consider the fact that, between 1985 and 1990, foreign direct investment (FDI) by OECD countries grew twice as fast as trade in goods and services and more than twice as fast as output.

In UBS's latest competitiveness rankings — a year old and being reviewed — America and Britain stood 17th and 19th out of about 40 economies, while Germany and France were 11th and 14th respectively. This seems surprising given the emphasis on FDI, attracted by flexible labour markets, deregulation et al. But UBS emphasises that the US and Britain have the potential to move higher, France and Germany to slip back.

Paul Donovan says the difference lies in the fact that the US and the UK have already been through the most politically painful part of improving competitiveness by deregulating labour markets, thereby achieving a measure of cost competitiveness and flexibility. That is not enough and the next stage will be improving the quality of the workforce through education and training. This is hard work, but not politically difficult. France and Germany still rank well because they have got quality, but the painful bit is yet to be tackled. This is certainly not lost on a company such as Toyota, a corporate refugee from the many inflexibilities of life in Japan.

Ethical consumers make companies respect our planet

From Mr Gavin Grant

Sir, Socially responsible businesses are encouraged and delighted by the growing power of ethical consumers ("UK companies fight shy of rights activists, says survey", January 13). This rapidly growing movement of animal welfarists and human rights and environmental activists is rightly waking up to the role of business in abusing the environment and people.

While UK and US consumers are leading the way in questioning corporate practice, Control Risks' own survey shows the growing public impact in Holland and Germany. The truth is, more and more people around the world want to know the true story behind products they buy. They are demanding that companies disclose their overall social and environmental impact and have a right to do so.

So don't label this movement as doing nothing more than "damaging company profits and hindering overseas development". Let's celebrate the fact that business, which today is more powerful than most governments, is having to adopt a sustainable agenda respecting the Earth and its people, rather than one that will literally cost the earth.

Yours sincerely,
GAVIN GRANT
(General Manager,
Global Public Affairs),
The Body Shop
International PLC,
Watersmead,
Littlehampton, West Sussex.

Saddened by House of Fraser's state

From Mr Brian Mattinson

Sir, More bad news from House of Fraser, including the sale of a Binns store, earns it your choice of title, "Ignoble House" (Tempus chart, January 28). At the time of the flotation, you printed: "Few companies in the world are viewed with more suspicion and cynicism in the City than House of Fraser" (July 21, 1993). You followed this with: "Both Mr McGowan, now executive chairman, and the other non-executives conspicuously lack retailing experience" (March 7, 1996).

How retailing has changed since the formative years of Binns under the chairmanship of one of the trade's men of integrity, John Simpson. With vision, drive and mounting experience, he made Binns solid, with the strong corporate identity coveted by Hugh Fraser. After Mr Simpson's retirement, the group's very soundness made it vulnerable in the bitter takeover battle won by Fraser in 1953. I am privileged to have known John Simpson, my wife's grandfather, and continue to be saddened by the state of the conglomerate which owes so much to Binns and therefore to him.

I hope that the present chief executive, John Coleman, can achieve a swing back towards the individuality and standards associated with the old respected high street names. To move such a mountain he will need faith as a grain of the seed linked in our minds with his surname, and the vision of the pioneer with whom he shares his first name!

Yours faithfully,
B. J. H. MATTINSON,
6 Herrison Close,
Pickering,
North Yorkshire.

Regulator's TransCo view is cavalier

From Dr Denis MacShane, MP for Rotherham (Labour)

Sir, Clare Spottiswoode informs us that TransCo will be reduced to a "head office ... sub-contracting out a (*sic*) vast majority of its work to other people" (report, February 5).

Thus she consigns to the scrapheap thousands of managers, skilled technicians, and other employees as well as a structure of service and safety standards which has served the gas industry well.

I doubt if at the height of state ownership of industry any minister would have dared make such pronouncements in such a cavalier fashion.

The Prime Minister told me yesterday in the Commons that his Chancellor was "infallible". The powers Ms Spottiswoode grants to herself also imply a new papal outlook about how industry should work that is worrying to those of us less convinced that the theology of today's regulators is unchallengeable.

Yours faithfully,
DENIS MACSHANE,
House of Commons.

Predictable pound

From Mr Wolfgang Michel

Sir, I notice a tone of hysteria over "the strong rise of the British pound", as also the dollar.

Quite frankly, I and my associates are puzzled: what is taking place was entirely foreseeable. It is not the pound and the dollar that were undervalued but, on the contrary, it was currencies such as the French franc and the German mark that were grossly overvalued.

Their playing around with economic and monetary union (EMU) did not help.

When, for instance, the French franc reaches ten to the pound, equilibrium between the two will be restored. One does not have to be Soros to have seen coming what is happening now.

Yours sincerely,
WOLFGANG MICHEL,
9 Hanover Street,
W1R.

Let Morgan be proud

From Mr Robert Cooper

Sir, Your Mr Robert Miller's article ("End this row now, for City's sake", January 23), concludes "it is about time that a once proud house should stop bringing the City into disrepute quite so often". This implies that Morgan Grenfell is no longer proud. They should be, they have an outstanding record of growth over the last few years.

They have not brought the City into disrepute. By their association with Deutsche Bank, they have increased the world image of the City and reinforced its longer-term position. Any disrepute has been brought about by those very few employees whose integrity leaves much to answer for.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT COOPER,
Ablington Manor,
Bibury, Cirencester,
Gloucestershire.

Development of A3XX will justify the costs

From the vice-president, Corporate Communications, Airbus Industrie

Sir, Your report of January 24 "revealing" plans for a new American superjumbo seating 800 passengers deserves some additional comment. The "blended-wing" or flying-wing idea is not new. We looked into it and have come to the conclusion that while such designs would show admirable efficiency gains due to their aerodynamic configuration, they are totally incompatible with current and anticipated safety regulations, passenger requirements, and airport facilities.

For the near-term, Airbus Industrie would rather focus on more realistic aircraft developments in the form of a brand-new large aircraft, the A3XX and derivatives of its A330/A340 family of airliners. In this regard, I should point out that our forecast development cost for the A3XX is $8 billion, virtually half the figure to which your article referred and $1 billion above what Boeing said its now abandoned B747X would have cost. But for a strengthened and lengthened fuselage based on an airframe of the 1960s, this aircraft would have been an almost new machine. The relatively small difference between an all-new design, ours, and the shelved superjumbo is insufficient to justify the near-doubling of our estimated costs. In the eyes of the leading airlines the Boeing B747X was simply a costly derivative delivering little added value. Not so the A3XX.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT ALIZART,
Airbus Industrie,
1 Rond Point Maurice
Bellonte,
31707 Blagnac,
Cedex, France.

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Norwich Union unveils 37% leap

By Robert Miller

NORWICH UNION, which plans to become a stock market company in the summer, yesterday unveiled a 37 per cent jump in new life, pensions and savings business to £224 million in 1996.

The UK's third-largest mutual insurer, which on flotation is expected to hand over free shares worth about £500 to some three million members, reported a 28 per cent increase in total new annual premiums to £98 million last year. Single premium business rose by 46 per cent to £1.3 billion.

Norwich Union, which could have a market capitalisation of approximately £4 billion, said single premium life and savings business had increased fivefold as a result of a series of special offers on the company's with-profits bond. Sales of the bond alone accounted for £253 million.

Annual premium life and savings business rose 21 per cent to £26 million, while sales of personal and corporate pensions rose 31 per cent to £68 million. Unit trust and personal equity plan business increased to £45.4 million against £26.9 million in 1995. The group's pension fund investment service won mandates worth £75 million to invest on behalf of pension fund clients — a rise of 117 per cent over the previous year.

Norwich Union, which will give members details of its flotation in the spring followed shortly after by a special meeting, fared less well on the international side. Annual premium business fell by 12 per cent to £81 million, while single premium sales were down 8 per cent to £483 million.

Allan Bridgewater, group chief executive of Norwich Union, said: "Sales fell principally due to difficult market conditions in Australia and the removal of tax relief on premiums in France. However, good prgress was made in Spain where we successfully continue to develop our life operation."

Giles Hilton expects Whittard of Chelsea, which has an estate of 88 shops, to open its first franchise outlet in the Middle East with a store in Dubai

Dalgety blames BSE for half-time setback

By Sarah Cunningham

A DECLINE of 30 per cent in cattle feed sales because of mad cow disease meant a sharp drop in profits at Dalgety in the first half, the food manufacturer revealed yesterday.

Richard Clothier, chief executive, said the £4 million fall in pre-tax profit in the six months to December 31 to £43 million resulted from a £6 million decline in cattle feed profits. The strength of sterling has also reduced overseas earnings in the first half, he said. Analysts trimmed their full-year forecasts by up to £10 million to £105 million to £110 million.

The company expects the second half to be "much improved" because of the continued improvements in petfoods, new capacity and new products in food ingredients, and the declining effects of BSE. Cattle food sales will be hit again in the second half, but with less dramatic effect than in the first half, Mr Clothier said.

Net debt has increased from £281 million to £305 million, giving a gearing ratio of 76 per cent. However, capital expenditure will fall as most of the group's main projects are completed, and gearing is set to stabilise by the year end.

Despite a fall in earnings per share, from 10.8p a year ago to 9.3p, the interim dividend is being maintained at 8.5p. It is payable on June 2.

Sales of cattle feed in the first half fell dramatically as a delay in the cattle culling programme introduced to tackle BSE resulted in excess milk production which in turn reduced demand for feed and created intense price competition. In petfoods, operating profit increased 8 per cent to £17.9 million as sales, taking exchange rate fluctuations into account, rose 1 per cent. Star of the show was Felix catfood which achieved a record market share of 27 per cent. Arthur's and Choosy recovered their losses in the previous year. Mr Clothier said that a promotional campaign by Mars for its Whiskas brand had pushed Felix into the number two spot briefly, but it had since regained its number one place.

In dogfood, which has not seen the same pick-up in business as catfood, the company plans to relaunch Winalot in the UK. Its market share has fallen to below 20 per cent in the past two years and the aim is to return to over 20 per cent.

The division's distribution and outsourcing costs have been pushed higher by the BSE scare. The distraction of dealing with its effects has meant plans to integrate the Quaker and Paragon businesses into its petfoods arm are nearly two years behind schedule.

A 6 per cent increase in food ingredients sales was not reflected in the division's operating profit, which was steady at £15.3 million after increased investment in manufacturing. The company is expecting growth from ingredients in the second half. In food distribution, operating profit fell 7 per cent to £5.6 million as growth in the US fast food market slowed. This hit sales of McDonald's, a Dalgety customer. Mr Clothier said that the US market remains tough.

Shares rise as Whittard profits leap

By Alasdair Murray

SHARES in Whittard of Chelsea, the AIM-listed tea and coffee retailer, jumped to a record high yesterday after the company unveiled a 49 per cent increase in half-year profits to £550,000.

Giles Hilton, chief executive, said the second half had started well and the company would soon open its first franchise outlet in the Middle East in Dubai. Total sales increased 23 per cent to £11.6 million as the estate increased from 76 shops in the same period last year to 88.

Whittard said it had increased its share of the ground coffee market to 6.9 per cent, while its share of the speciality tea market rose to 21 per cent.

Shares in the company closed up 20½p at 244½p, compared with a placing price of 148p when the company joined the market last autumn. A maiden interim dividend of 1p is payable on February 25.

Japanese to throw banks a lifeline

From Robert Whymant in Tokyo

HIROSHI MITSUZUKA, Japan's Finance Minister, said yesterday that the Government will "firmly support" the nation's 20 biggest banks if they run into trouble clearing huge problem loans.

The assurance was intended to calm rumours that the Nippon Credit Bank, the smallest of the three long-term credit banks, was close to bankruptcy. The bank dismissed the speculation as groundless, saying it had ample liquidity and would dispose of Y130 billion (£647 million) in bad loans in the current fiscal year.

"As Finance Minister, it's only natural that I will firmly support Japan's major banks," Mr Mitsuzuka told a parliamentary committee. He praised their "strenuous" efforts to tackle non-performing loans.

He reiterated the Government's policy of not spending public money to bail out financial institutions, apart from mortgage lenders and credit unions. But it is generally accepted that it would have no alternative but to inject funds to help banks that have liquidity problems in clearing debts exacerbated by the slide in land prices.

Core offer takes Scott Pickford

By Fraser Nelson

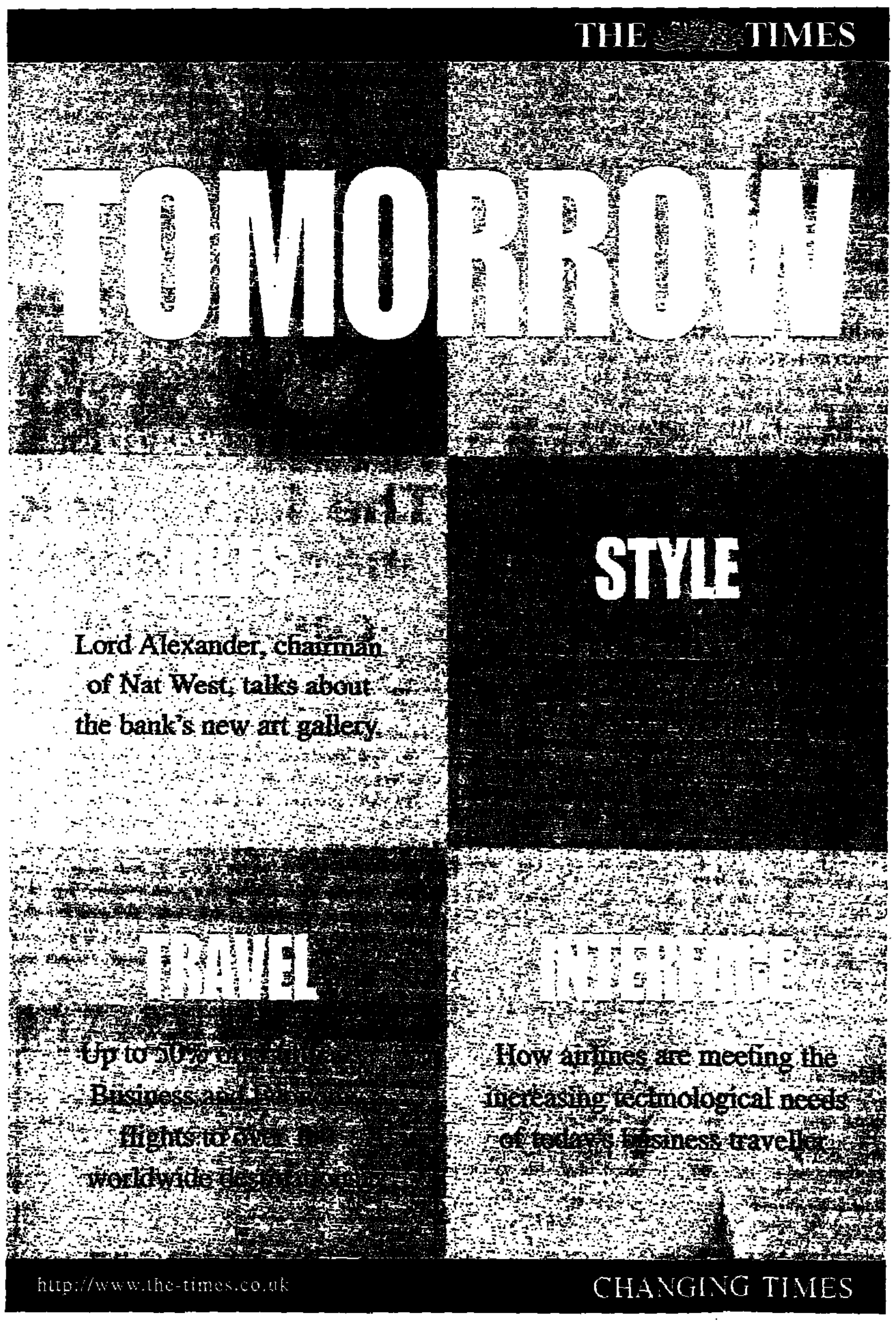
CORE LABORATORIES of the US has claimed victory in the battle for Scott Pickford, the geological services company, after its £8.91 million offer was accepted by Aerodata, the rival bidder.

Aerodata, an Australian oil drilling consultancy, has agreed to sell its 22 per cent shareholding in Pickford to Core Laboratories at 59p per share. It will make a profit of £121,000 in selling the stake, which it picked up in a share swap on Friday.

Don Scott, Pickford's founder and chairman, originally sought Aerodata's bid to rescue the company from a group of rebel shareholders who gained control of the board in November.

With the support of Mr Scott and two other directors, the Australian firm was offered 36 per cent of the votes, but refused to lift its £8.32 million negotiating price.

The offer by Core Laboratories, which is listed on Nasdaq in the US and is capitalised at about £120 million, was supported by the rebels, who represented 45 per cent of the shareholders. Core has been told that a merger with Scott Pickford may be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.



BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Woolwich members vote on float today

THE fate of the Woolwich Building Society will be decided today after an extraordinary meeting to vote on proposals for the flotation of the society. If the flotation is backed by enough votes, some 2.57 million members will benefit from share payouts worth £1,000 on average. If the flotation of the £3 billion building society goes ahead, all members will benefit from a basic distribution of 450 shares. Savers of at least two years' standing who have more than £1,000 invested in the society will receive more shares. The maximum number of shares that any member may receive is 2,000.

Woolwich needs 75 per cent of savers to vote in favour, and a straight majority of borrowers, for the conversion to go through. Only 20 per cent of members need to vote. Woolwich said that many people had been voting by return of post. The vote on the Woolwich will be followed later this month by the vote to decide the future of the Halifax. About 3.5 million of the Halifax's eight million members have to vote in order for the float to go ahead.

Lombard Tricity buys

YORKSHIRE BANK, a wholly owned subsidiary of National Australia Bank, is to sell its retail services and Storecard companies to Lombard Tricity. Lombard, part of National Westminster Group, is expected to pay a premium for the £15 million of combined net assets held by the two Yorkshire Bank subsidiaries when the deal is completed by the end of March. Lombard Tricity, the market leader of point of sale credit services, has an annual turnover of £1.5 billion. Among Lombard's 15,000 UK retail outlets are British Gas, Liberty, DFS and World of Leather. Yorkshire Bank, which has net assets of more than £300 million, said its subsidiaries employ some 200 staff and it is understood that they will be part of the deal although no public statement has been made to that effect.

Blue Circle venture

BLUE CIRCLE, the building materials group, is to make its first push into the Philippines with a $300 million cement works in Cebu built in partnership with four other companies. The company has businesses in Malaysia and Singapore and is looking to build up its Asia-Pacific presence. Last year construction growth in the Philippines was 14 per cent and is forecast to continue expanding. Blue Circle will have 20 per cent equity and overall control of the plant, which will have a capacity of 1.6 million tonnes a year.

Runway builders chosen

THE first major runway to be built in the UK for 20 years is to be constructed by Amec and Tarmac in a £100 million deal with Manchester Airport. Work will start this spring. The runway — the airport's second — is expected to be operational in three years. It will be nearly two miles long and able to serve a future generation of larger aircraft. Manchester has signalled big economic benefits to come from a second runway, forecasting 15,000 extra jobs at the airport and 50,000 for the region over the next ten years.

Liberty names contractor

LIBERTY, the Regent Street retailing group, has awarded the contract for its warehousing and distribution to P&O Distribution. The contract will start in April and will follow the completion of the sale of Liberty's existing warehouse in Burnley. Ian Thomson, group managing director, said: "These steps restructure our distribution activities to recognise the closure of regional stores achieved last year and bases our new distribution centre very close to the Regent Street store and the four Heathrow airport shops."

Hospitals in PPP deal

PPP, the second largest private medical insurer, yesterday unveiled the first in a series of link-ups with private hospitals that could lead to premium price cuts of up to 15 per cent. The first hospitals to sign up are the Nuffield in Bournemouth, the Harbour in Poole, Thornbury in Sheffield and the Park in Nottingham. PPP will also expand its cancer care network through Guys and St Thomas's NHS trust and the Royal Marsden, in a deal that could generate up to £15 million a year in NHS income by the end of 1997.

Foster's disappoints

FOSTER'S, the Australian brewing company, disappointed the Sidney stock market yesterday, after its half-year profits failed to live up to expectations. Shares in the group dropped 11 cents to A$2.54 after Ted Kunkel, chief executive, unveiled a 10 per cent rise in net profits of A$168 million (£78 milion) for the half year to December 30, well below the A$180 million many analysts expected. The shares also lost ground after BHP, Foster's major shareholder, rejected suggestions that it was on the verge of selling its 37 per cent stake in the group.

Japan declines again

JAPAN'S current account surplus shrank 30.9 per cent in 1996, the third consecutive year of decline, pushed down by a surge in imports of crude oil and office equipment, and a rise in spending by Japanese travelling abroad. Finance ministry officials said they expect the current account surplus, which fell to 7,180.6 billion yen (£36 billion), to continue its downward trend, given that import growth was outpacing increases in exports. The trade surplus for 1996 totalled Y9,115.2 billion, 26.2 per cent lower than the previous year.

Ombudsman appointed

ANTHONY HOLLAND, a past president of the Law Society, was yesterday appointed as the principal Ombudsman for the Personal Investment Authority, the watchdog for those firms that sell direct to the public. Mr Holland, 58, will succeed Stephen Edell, the former Building Societies Ombudsman who was the first PIA Ombudsman. Mr Edell is to retire in June.

NCC attacks investment bias

By Caroline Merrell

THE National Consumer Council has attacked financial services companies for failing to cater for the needs of those who have little to invest.

In a report published today, *Savings and Investments for Low Income Consumers*, the NCC claims that those who have low incomes have less choice of investment and savings schemes, and are often given a very poor deal. Those who have less to save can often end up getting returns that are less than the inflation rate. Those without current accounts, for example, miss out on the best offers because payments must be made by cheque or direct debit.

Many telephone banking services may be restricted to those with a certain income, while bank branches have fallen from 21,873 in 1984 to 17,365 in 1994. David Hatch, chairman of the NCC, said: "The returns on offer to poorer savers can be so poor. Many would do as well stuffing their cash under a mattress, or splashing out straight away."

The NCC urges the high street banks to work harder to attract those who do not have a bank account. It also wants the Building Societies Commission to make the building societies more friendly towards the small savers. At the moment, many have very high opening balances to try to stop speculators opening accounts merely to benefit from flotation or takeover bonuses.

The NCC says that National Savings should be designing products aimed at satisfying the demands of small savers, that credit unions should be more accessible to users, and that financial services companies and the voluntary organisations should build up a register of financial advisers prepared to give advice for a small fixed fee. Other recommendations include urging the Personal Investment Authority to develop regulation to cover low-income consumers and to take action against life insurance companies to prevent policies lapsing.

Adrian Coles, director-general of the Building Societies Association, said: "The prime motivation of an increasing proportion of the financial services industry is to generate profit for shareholders rather than to offer service to customers. The BSA fully endorses the NCC's finding that consumers should not have to run the risk of losing what is potentially an extremely valuable financial structure — the mutual — without proper research into what it has to offer."

Pennington, page 25

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Shares fall back from day's highs

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
556	407½	Allied Domecq	415	- 2½	7.1	12.5
626	477	Bulmer (HP)	605	...	2.8	18.0
131	63½	Burn Stewart	65½	...	6.4	70.7
880	615	Glenmorangie A	860	...	1.6	26.1
498	411	Grand Met	445	- 4	4.5	14.4
480	424	Guinness	431	- 3½	4.4	13.4
380	315	Highland Dist	361½	...	2.9	17.4
883	257½	Matthew Clark	285½	...	10.5	13.8
141	91½	Morrison W	107½	...	5.3	14.5
2012½	1375	SA Breweries	1828½	+ 58½	1.9	...

BANKS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
4162½	2743½	ABN-AMRO	4162½	+ 88½	2.8	16.7
811	520	Abbey Natl	786½	+ ½	3.7	14.4
452	315	Allied Irish	452	+ 10½	4.0	13.0
398½	285	Aust New Z	377½	- 2½	6.0	...
7278½	3849½	Bank America	7278½	+ 178½	...	...
379½	227½	Bank Scotland	359½	- 7½	2.6	13.0
1187½	883	Barclays	1178½	+ 3½	3.0	12.9
609½	413	Bk of Ireland	609½	+ 6½	3.4	13.8
7389½	4031½	Citicorp	7389½	+ 209½	...	...
1575	1275	Commerzbk	1281½	+ 3½	3.5	...
1350	609½	Dai Ichi Kan Y	825	+ 18½	0.7	...
3412½	2769½	Deutsche Bk	3178½	+ 93½	2.1	...
843½	593½	Espirito Santo	825	- 2½	4.1	11.7
1597	609½	Fuji Bank Y	614½	+ 9	0.7	...
1568½	931	HSBC	1560	- 8½	3.0	14.8
1520½	930	HSBC HK	1512½	- 7½	3.1	14.3
577½	385	Irish Perm	577½	+ 17½	2.5	15.8
505	284½	Lloyds TSB	493	+ 6½	3.0	17.8
754½	586	Nat Aust Bk	731½	- 8½	6.4	10.2
844½	505½	Nat West	827	+ 11	4.8	11.8
818½	464	Ryl Bk Scotl	802½	+ 8	3.8	13.4
926½	547	Stand Chart	817½	+ 2½	1.6	15.9
£174½	£131½	Wells Fargo	£164½	...	1.9	...
385½	284	Westpac	359½	- ½	3.7	11.8

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
878½	702	Bass†	847	+ 8½	3.7	16.7
78	40	Bk for the Bdr	65½	...	3.3	17.9
205	181	Burtonwd Brwf	182½	+ 1	3.9	16.4
144½	92	City Centre Rest	144	...	1.9	27.1
707½	488	Compass Gp	707½	+ 11	1.5	27.8
290½	190	Eldridge P 'A'	287½	+ ½	2.3	17.8
540	473	Fullr Sm 'A'	477½	...	2.5	15.9
696	546	Greenalls Gp†	549	- 3	3.5	17.3
715	567½	Greene King	693½	+ 1	2.8	17.1
265	184½	Grosvenor Inns	208½	+ 1	3.5	22.2
282½	204	Groupe Chez Gar	282½	...	1.3	25.5
357	276½	Hardy Hansn†	289½	+ 2	4.5	13.3
3475	2700	Hall J	2725	...	2.6	14.7
72½	45	Inn Business	69½	...	1.0	32.8
355	298	Mansfield	354	...	2.2	16.3
353½	292	Marston Thmp	302½	- 1	3.1	11.3
659	524	Morland†	591½	+ 5	2.8	15.3
189½	118	My Kinda Town	188	...	2.0	18.4
72½	39½	Paramount	42½	...	...	...
609½	217	PizzaExpress	553½	+ 1	0.8	42.8
438	245	Rosedens (H)	357½	- 5	1.8	...
372½	138½	Regent Inns	361½	- 1½	0.8	42.1
700	601	Scott & New	675	+ 2½	3.7	20.4
313	246	Vaux Group	270½	+ 8	4.9	12.9
1255	640	Wetherspoon JD	1142½	...	1.0	28.1
788	672	Whitbread	787	+ 1	3.5	18.0
693	578	Wolverhamptn D	674½	...	3.2	14.8
493½	397	Yates Bros†	481½	- 1	1.9	23.9
650	425	Young 'A'	620	...	3.1	24.7

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
34½	15	AAF Inds	27½	- ½	...	...
202	135	Abbey†	195	+ 5	3.6	20.0
297½	212½	Allen	297½	...	2.8	18.2
121	88½	Amec	103	+ ½	8.6	17.4
480½	117	Aukett	480	+ 1	2.1	29.1
520	233	Andrews Sykes	487½	...	1.3	10.8
282½	152	Ashford	288½	- 5	1.3	24.2
48½	26	Avonside	48	...	2.6	...
42	24	Bailey (Ben) Con	37½	...	3.5	15.1
30	18½	Bandt	30½	...	4.5	19.1
57½	34	Barcom	57½	...	3.2	33.0
287½	219	Barratt Devs	287	- 3½	8.6	16.1
213	163½	Beazer	208½	- ½	3.8	17.6
381	249	Bellway	378½	...	2.7	18.9
21½	14½	Bellwinch	21	...	...	...
735½	483	Berkeley Gpt	717½	...	1.4	18.0
175	133	Bett Bros	162	- 1½	4.5	4.9
260	175	Boot (Henry)	260	...	3.7	10.9
133	77½	Brandon Hire	97½	...	3.4	12.7
35½	19	Britannia Gp	31	...	6.5	...
70	31	Br Bldg & Eng	63½	+ 1	...	...
159	104	Bryant	150	+ ½	4.2	20.8
125½	88	CALA	124	...	3.4	16.5
20	5	Campbell & Arm	5½	...	...	...
63½	37	Chase T	61½	...	8.0	...
96½	51	Countryside	91½	- 2	3.1	26.5
94	54½	Crest Nicholson	91	...	3.5	...
88	65½	Crossley	84½	...	5.8	13.7
220	118	Eve Group	167½	...	1.1	...
23	15	Galliford	17½	...	7.1	22.5
907½	753	Gleeson (MJ)	880	...	2.3	16.6
51	35½	Green (Ernst)	51½	+ 2	2.4	...
359	265	Havelock Euro	300	- 1½	1.6	22.7
163	119	Hewden-Stuart	144	+ 1	2.8	18.9
22	15	Howard Hldgs	15½	...	5.4	39.8
181½	22	Jarvis	178	- 1	1.1	...
282½	128	Keller	185½	- 1	3.2	18.2
250½	172½	Kier	250	...	3.2	16.1
323	244½	Laing (J)	302	- 1	3.7	...
118½	97	Laing 6.4% Cv Pf	118	...	7.8	...
21	6½	Lovell (YJ)	10	- ½	...	...
218	162½	Magnolos	185	...	3.9	15.3
197	125½	McAlpine (A)	143½	- ½	6.1	...
118½	86	McCarthy & S	116½	- 1	2.5	17.2
240	46½	McInerney	75	...	...	...
221	81	Morgan Sindall	218½	+ 2	1.8	21.5
282½	122	Mowlem (J)	282½	...	2.1	21.9
120	58½	Newlon	118	...	3.2	18.1
261½	173	Persimmon	251½	+ 3½	4.7	26.7
150	85	Pochins	118	...	2.8	12.3
145	97	Prowting	136	+ 2½	3.7	42.5
20	12	Raine Ind	17½	...	...	33.0
179½	113	Redrow	175	+ ½	2.4	20.8
320	258	Smart Ridgt	287	...	3.5	...
92	60½	Sierra	70	...	7.5	8.3
378	282½	Spendor	332½	...	1.1	18.4
103	72½	Swan Hill	91½	+ 1½	3.4	...
158	105½	Ty Homes	148½	...	8.9	68.3
192	115	Taylor Woodrw	180½	- ...	2.0	19.8
595½	408	Tilbury Dougls	580½	+ 1	4.7	17.5
20½	10½	Try Group	20½	...	...	...
183	89½	Wamplan	121	...	7.8	...
134½	85	Walm	127½	...	4.4	...
53	35½	Ward Hldgs	45½	...	2.7	12.1
271	170	Westbury	266	+ 1½	2.9	23.3
9½	4½	Wiggins	8½	...	...	35.0
193	147	Wilson (C)	183½	- ½	3.5	22.7
500½	354	Wilson Bowdn	500½	...	2.5	23.5
150	121½	Wimpey G	131½	- 1½	5.2	...

BUILDING MATERIALS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
393	284	BPB	341½	- 3	3.6	18.5
124	91	Baggeridge Brk	108½	...	3.6	26.7
42	29½	Bardon	39	- ½	8.4	16.8
65	33½	Blockleys	47	- ½	...	...
414½	322	Blue Circle	405	+ 3	3.9	28.3
97	77	Bradon PLC	83½	...	7.2	13.9
137½	105	Br Dredging	136½	...	5.1	15.7
673	473	CRH	638	+ 5	1.8	17.1
48	32½	Caledonal Rly	47½	...	5.8	13.4
192½	140	Cape	188½	...	7.4	...
274½	195½	Caradon	265	...	4.5	28.5
134½	106	Caradon pf	129½	...	7.2	...
59½	19	Chelmlo Gp	52½	...	3.5	...
272½	258	Dyson (JJ)†	271½	+ 1	2.3	16.0
145	70	Dyson 'A'†	129	+ 1	4.5	8.2
7½	2½	Ecodune	3	...	...	...
262½	200	Epwin	281½	...	4.3	19.7
183½	121½	Flair	135	...	...	14.9
95	80½	Gibbs & Dandy	93½	...	4.8	9.5
209	121	Graham Gp	137	- ½	5.2	22.2
406	341½	Halstead (J)	359	...	3.2	15.3
321	244½	Hepworth	257	...	7.2	14.8
98	36	Hewden	85	...	3.9	18.9
259½	215	Heywd Wlm	259½	...	6.6	12.5
79	55½	Ibstock	72½	- ...	3.4	16.1
500	335	Jehnson	500	...	2.8	19.5
88	65	Lilleshall	78½	...	7.6	12.7
155	111	Marley	126½	- ½	4.6	16.5
184	122½	Marshalls†	129½	- ...	5.0	13.9
471	347½	Meyer Intl	398½	- 3½	3.6	15.4
180½	99	Newman Tnks	178	...	4.8	31.6
106	81½	Norcros	92½	...	1.4	...
29	14½	Poornes	20	...	1.9	45.4
223	138	Pilkington†	138	- 2	4.5	22.4
249½	174½	Polypipe	241	...	1.5	20.7
1196½	878½	RMC Gp	939½	- 1½	3.4	15.0
476½	322	Redland	335	...	8.2	16.5
123	77	Rockel	101½	- 1½	6.5	9.9
153	87½	Ruberoid	109½	+ ½	7.2	15.1
140	91½	Rugby Group	103	- 2	4.4	28.8
131	62½	Russell (A)	100½	...	3.4	18.7
300½	196	SIG	298	+ 1	2.8	16.6
4½	2½	SMP	3½	...	...	...
239½	156	Sharpe & Fisher	230	...	2.9	20.8
27	10½	Spring Ram	17½	...	...	...
230	175	Stanmore Hldgs	183½	- 1½	5.2	12.5
136	85	Tarmac	89½	- 7½	6.9	...
142	87½	Tilcon	101½	+ 1½	6.2	9.3
525	350	Travis Perkins	524	...	2.3	22.7
44½	25½	Tudor	44½	...	3.0	17.5
511½	415	Wolseley	476½	+ ½	2.7	16.4

CHEMICALS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
207½	155	Albright & Wil	159	- 1½	5.2	13.5
149½	103½	Allied Colloids†	131	- 2	2.8	23.4
210	120	Acidos Ind	121½	...	5.8	10.3
1½	0½	Anglo Utd	1	...	...	4.0
2440½	1443½	BASF DM	2250	+ 12½	2.3	...
963½	819	BOC	942½	+ ½	3.8	16.3
334½	258	BTP†	279	- ½	3.1	14.7
2531½	1719½	Bayer DM50	2425	+ 28½	2.3	...
118½	70	Brent Chems	89	- 1½	3.7	26.5
249½	185½	Br Vita	209½	+ 1½	4.8	24.2
192½	162	Brunner Mond	175	...	8.0	10.4
283½	182	Canning (W)	281	+ 1½	3.5	17.1
252½	182½	Cole Technology	215	- 2½	...	25.1
489½	357	Courtaulds	396	...	5.1	30.5
373	294	Croda	347	- 2	3.4	16.8
327½	200½	Doeflex	299½	...	3.9	14.9
332½	246	Ellis & Everard†	312½	...	3.9	14.6
92	60½	Gibbons	89½	...	8.8	7.4
197	51	Hickson	60½	+ 1½	4.1	...
3642½	1750	Hoechst	2686½	+ 65½	1.8	...
165	112	Holliday Chem	119½	- ...	5.3	16.6
1330½	952½	Takeda Chem	1238½	+ 48½	0.6	21.9
597	325	Yule Catto	358½	+ 10	2.9	16.8

DISTRIBUTORS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
487½	328	Electrocomponents	448	- 6½	1.9	22.2
314	192½	Eurodis Elec	216½	...	2.9	30.6
376	217	Evans Halshaw	257½	...	6.0	10.1
67	50½	Fife Indmar	53	+ ½	7.8	7.9
386	235½	Frost Grp A	377½	- 3	2.1	22.5
97½	70½	Gowrings	87½	+ 1	3.9	14.9
282	218	Harris (Phillip)	249½	...	4.5	14.8
317½	280½	Headlam	317½	...	2.3	26.3
318	231	Inchcape	258½	- 1	4.0	22.1
78	38	Jacks (Wm)	52½	...	4.2	18.1
360	180	Kwik-Fit	225½	- ½	2.8	18.1
380	239	Lex Service	322½	- 1½	6.0	10.3
153	109	Lookers	109½	...	8.8	7.9
404½	272	Pendragon	380	...	3.0	18.9
211	145	Perry Gp	207½	...	5.0	10.6
762½	512½	Premier Farnell	553	- 2½	2.6	21.5
190	135	Quicks Group	147½	...	3.5	11.1
301½	123	UMECO†	254	- 4	2.4	18.2
352½	289½	Vardy (Reg)	345½	- 2	2.5	15.1
172½	75½	Wyko	167½	...	2.5	19.4
152½	104	Young (H)	152½	+ 1	3.4	12.1

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
388	288	Autoglass	320	...	1.6	14.4
1058	785	Baker Hill	855½	- 18½	2.8	19.5
340	228	BTR	251	- ½	4.8	18.8
147½	108	Bibby (J)	134	...	7.0	7.8
972	715	Charter	754½	- 1½	4.8	19.7
292½	204	DCC	282½	+ 3½	2.9	11.6
172½	118½	Harrison Cross	127	- 2	8.9	12.5
509½	378½	Hatch Whamp	464½	- 11	1.6	28.3
492	352	Imperial Tobacco	409½	- 1½	6.1	8.2
593½	344½	Jardine Math	382½	- 2½	4.0	...
217½	116½	Lonrho†	129½	+ ½	4.5	11.7
791	184	McLeod Russel	174½	...	4.8	14.2
478	388	Powell Duffryn	407	...	7.7	16.0
602	455½	Swire Pacific	553½	- 18½	2.1	23.0
358	288	TT Group	342½	...	2.5	18.3
294½	232½	Tomkins†	280	+ 1	4.4	14.4
512½	385	Wardle Storeys	477½	- 1½	5.9	17.7
350½	254	Wassall	348	- 1	2.2	28.4
237	129½	Whitecroft	154	...	3.8	19.1
369½	310½	Williams Hldg	354½	+ 1	5.4	15.0

ELECTRICITY

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
169½	80	Br Energy Pf	144	- ½	7.1	...
737	470	East Midlands	670	...	5.9	8.9
873	585	London Elect	792½	+ ½	7.3	10.7
217½	184½	National Grid	205½	+ ½	6.8	8.2
615	373½	National Power	510	- 7	5.8	9.7
724	484	Northern Elec	651	...	8.4	5.9
864	462	PowerGen	858	- 2½	4.3	7.6
372	271½	Hydro-Electric	353	- 4½	5.8	9.0
910	607	Southern Elect	772½	- 5	7.0	9.1
910	660	Yorkshire Elect	840½	+ 8½	6.4	11.1

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
592	471½	Acal	478½	...	2.3	15.7
414½	163½	Admiral	387½	- 2½	0.6	46.6
218½	134	Amstrad	164	...	2.1	...
164½	118	Astec	152	...	1.3	18.9
332	248½	BICC	279	- 1	5.6	...
373	285	Blick	328	+ 1	5.5	8.8
478	393	Bowthorpe	412	- 1	2.9	17.3
582	429	Cobham†	707½	...	1.8	22.5
370	154	Dewhurst	276½	+ 6½	0.7	30.8
3803½	2816½	Electrolux 'B'	3698½	+ 62½	2.6	...
2403½	1125	Ericsson 'B'	2850½	+ 58½	0.7	44.8

ENGINEERING

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
34	30	Stanox Gp	34	...	2.4	12.7
833½	622	Smiths Ind	762½	- 6	2.7	18.8
780½	503	Spirax-Sarco	698½	...	2.5	19.4
553½	456	TI	497½	- 1½	3.1	18.2
212½	149	Triplex Lloyd	186	+ 1½	4.4	11.2
282	241	Vickers	281	- 1	3.4	16.1
950	750	Vosper Thorny	950	+ 1	3.2	15.9
273½	212	Weir	227½	- 6	4.2	14.2
273	228	Wellington Hdg	250½	...	3.6	15.9
122	42½	Widney	60½	+ 2	7.5	17.5

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
151	108	Adwest	121	...	8.1	25.8
235	180	Airflow Stream	185	...	5.1	8.4
759½	423	Avon Rubber	695	...	3.5	13.4
107	57½	BSG	105½	...	3.9	16.4
707	431	Ford Ecbt	677½	...	1.8	20.1
1195	778	GKN	984	- 11	3.2	17.0
3800	2850	General Mtr	3287½	...	3.7	...
1832½	1312½	Honda Motor	1677½	+ 48½	0.4	...
502	386	Laird	391½	- 6	3.9	11.9
282	172	LucasVarity	197½	- 3½	0.0	...
153½	91	Mayflower	135½	- ½	1.9	36.8
190½	128½	T & N	157½	- 5	4.8	11.1
433	252½	Trinity Hldgs	387½	- 2	3.4	15.6

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
494	355	AB Food†	481	+ 4	2.5	15.8
293	220	Acatos & Hutch	292½	...	4.4	38.8
53	38½	Albert Fisher	42½	+ ½	11.0	18.3
325	285	Banks (S C)	287½	...	5.9	10.7
465	313	Barr (AG)	368	...	2.8	...
39	21	Bensons Crsp	36	...	0.9	9.2
418½	346	Booker	358½	...	8.2	14.0
507	484	Cadbury-Schw	477	- 2	4.3	18.1
97½	65	Canadian Pizza	94	...	6.4	13.8
349	258	Carr Milling	314	+ 1½	4.2	10.1
220	162½	Dairy Crest Group†	220	+ 1½	5.2	18.9
444	287½	Dalgety	341	+ 1½	8.3	20.0
278½	215	Devro	289	...	3.7	26.5
90	61	Finlay (James)	83	...	5.5	15.9
274	185	Geest	259	...	3.9	...
118½	85½	Hazlewood Fds	118	+ 2	7.2	8.6
202½	163½	Hillsdown	184½	- 1½	6.4	13.4
139½	95	Matthews (B)	139½	+ 2	3.5	11.4
231	176½	Nichols (V)	197½	...	4.3	12.5
226	171	Nthn Foods†	215	+ ½	5.3	13.7
88	67½	Perkins Food	79	+ 2½	7.1	11.3
514½	425	Tate & Lyle	441	+ 5	4.6	11.3
454½	382	Unigate	457	...	5.3	11.6
1426	1172½	Unilever	1395	+ 35½	2.9	17.9
£104½	£65	Unilever (NV)	£103½	+ 180½	2.2	19.7
274	194½	Utd Biscuits	228	...	5.4	48.2
34½	24½	WT Foods	34	...	5.0	23.2
92	11½	Yorkshire Food	12½	...	8.8	...

HEALTHCARE

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1264	818	Amersham	1262½	+ 18	1.9	20.9
165	127	Assoc Nursg	141½	...	3.0	18.5
570	315	Bespak†	570	...	2.5	8.4
1292½	359½	Biocompatibles Intl	1290	+ 47½	...	...
139½	74	Care UK	109½	...	1.1	14.1
385	243	Community H	375½	...	3.3	17.0
178	111	Goldsborough†	138½	...	3.9	14.2
137½	89	Life Sciences†	132½	...	3.9	15.8
138½	78	Nestor-BNA	129	...	3.7	20.0
340	277	Quality Care†	305	...	2.5	...
382½	194	Scholl	300	...	3.0	...
217½	174½	Smith & Neph	176½	...	4.8	17.3
273½	232½	UniChem	259½	...	4.0	12.8

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
282½	192	Airsprung	276½	- 1	2.6	16.9
309	215	Alba	228½	- 8½	3.3	15.2
140	85	BLP Group	127	...	3.6	10.9
72½	37	Black Arrow	70½	+ 2	6.4	9.1
357½	251	Black (Peter)	357½	...	2.0	20.0
298½	178	Derby Group	296	- ½	1.7	24.2
135	87	Eclipse Blinds	129½	...	1.9	16.8
278	160	Kenwood Appl	161	- 5½	7.8	9.3
196	121	McBride	140	...	6.0	14.5
975	365	Osborne & Little†	865	...	2.2	18.8
470	370	Paterson Zch 'A'	470	...	4.3	12.4
305	184	Pifco	285½	...	2.8	15.1
777½	648½	Reckitt Colm	709½	+ 2	3.8	13.9
369½	272	Relyon	350½	...	2.7	18.8
386	242	Royal Doulton	271½	...	4.0	13.1
347½	175	Silentnight	347½	...	3.9	28.4
108	75	Victoria Carpet	102	...	2.5	28.0
285	175	Wood (Arthur)	235	...	3.5	11.4

INSURANCE

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
2634½	2142½	Am Genl	2534½	- 6½	3.4	...
122	87	Angerstein	111½	- ½	3.3	35.5
821	662	Britannic	798½	+ ½	2.5	26.8
759½	598	Comm Union	748	+ 11½	4.8	12.5
2185	1545	Dom & Gen	2195	+ 90	2.3	19.5
876	612	Gen Accident	872	+ 26	4.5	9.5
297	216	GRE	295	+ 2	3.9	4.8
681½	373	Independent	661½	+ 3	2.3	12.1
282½	228	Irish Life	282½	+ 7	5.3	24.4
407	283½	Legal & Gen	404	+ ½	3.1	27.2
2450	1412½	Liberty Life	1809½	+ 31½	2.0	21.0
440	371	Londn & Man	437½	+ 1	5.6	13.4
8650	5487½	Marsh McLnt	8650	+ 50	3.2	...
501	403	Prudential	501½	+ 9½	3.5	18.0
593	349	Royal & Sun Al	500	+ 8	4.8	...
152	114	Sedgwick	128½	- ½	7.6	11.3
299½	207½	Sun Life & P	279½	- ½	4.1	13.9
527½	361	Utd Assurance	520	+ 2½	3.5	33.0
169	118½	Willis Corroon	141	...	5.9	19.8
26	15	Windsor	19	- 1½	4.1	7.5

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
539½	406	3i	534½	+ 1½	2.0	43.9
2321	2083	Alliance	2267½	+ 10	2.9	39.7
519	403	Anglo & O'seas	507½	+ 7½	1.9	56.0
238	205	Bankers†	221	+ ½	2.8	38.2
402½	364	Baring Tribne	402	+ ½	2.3	53.4
665	458	Candover	655	+ 35	2.5	30.4
740½	654	Dunedin Inc G	746½	+ 3	4.7	25.2
375	314	Dunedin Smlr	375	+ ½	3.0	39.3
177	153½	Dunedin Worldw	164	+ ½	1.4	65.6
384	312½	Edinburgh	362½	+ 1	3.5	31.4
592	362	Electra Inv	498½	+ 20½	2.2	45.5
263½	222	Electric Gen	258	...	1.8	65.7
215½	171½	Finsbury 'A'	213	...	2.3	48.0
200½	162½	Five Arr Chile	185	+ ¾	1.7	54.9
273	227½	Fleming Entp	242½	...	2.7	30.7
710	180½	Fleming Ingl Inc	182½	+ ½	10.8	11.8
364½	286	Fleming Merc	364	+ 1	2.8	38.7
366	317	Fleming Overs	341½	+ ½	1.7	70.2
154½	128	Fleming Smlr Co	153½	...	3.7	32.3
171	140½	Foreign & Col	152½	+ 1	1.2	71.7
113	87	F&C Inc Gwth	97	+ 1	4.4	28.5
207	158½	F&C Pacific	161½	+ 1½	1.4	56.2
149½	134	F&C PEP	148	...	3.5	34.1
200	166½	F&C Smaller	178½	+ ½	1.7	70.4
371½	243	Gnrce Smlr Cos	361½	...	2.0	67.3
362½	287	Govett Strategic	359½	+ ½	2.5	42.6
259	168½	GT Japan†	178½	+ 3	1.2	78.7
98½	71	High Income T	98½	+ 1½	8.3	14.4
157	127	H Govett Smlr	148½	...	2.1	63.1
162½	114	IMS UK Smlr	161½	+ 1	2.2	37.0
323½	252	Kleinwort Chrt	323½	+ 2	2.1	57.1
90	74	Kleinw H Inc	88½	+ ½	13.2	8.5
298	261	Klwrt O'seas	292½	+ 2	1.6	77.9
188½	135	Klwrt Smlr	188	...	2.2	55.6
1035	913	Law Debenture	931½	+ 4½	3.1	23.2
155	126	Lloyds Sm Ptg	155	+ ½	3.1	39.9
174	151	Lon St Lawrence	181½	...	4.8	25.9
353	289	Lowland	308½	...	4.4	24.0
895	573	M&G 2nd Dual Cp	660	+ 5	...	...
3430	2903	M&G Dual Cap	3430	+ 5	...	...
136½	122	M&G Inc Package	135½	...	5.0	24.3
252	222	Majedie	252	+ 3	3.3	33.0
290	235	Mercantile†	283	+ 7	5.7	23.4
648½	557	Monks Inv Tst	647½	+ 2½	1.9	49.5
399½	335	Murray Income	381	...	4.4	29.0
511	410	Murray Small	473	+ 4	1.3	69.8
415	353½	O'seas Inv Tst	392½	+ 2	1.2	29.4
283	267	Perp Uk Sm Co	264½	+ 4½	0.8	74.8
1133	£111½	Personal Assets	£133	...	2.1	45.9
137½	117	Schrod UK Gwth	133½	- ½	2.8	26.1
178½	158	Scot American	179½	...	3.7	31.3
2877½	1823	Second Alliance	2048½	...	3.8	40.3
401½	326½	Temple Bar	400	+ 4	4.6	24.8
182½	152	TR City Of Lndr	182½	+ 1	4.2	28.2
239½	203½	TR Smlr Cos†	239½	+ 2	2.1	44.2
146	124	Value Inc Tst	146	+ ½	3.9	33.0
285	249	Witan	285	+ 1½	3.0	...
65	74	Yeoman Inc	83	...	23.4	...

LEISURE & HOTELS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
121	72½	ABF Leis	91	...	6.7	8.9
920	361	Airtours†	918½	+ 13	2.2	18.7
60½	37	Ald Leis	54½	...	1.1	42.6
54½	39½	Arcadian	47½	...	2.7	61.6
238	211½	Bass & Wall	213½	+ 1	6.4	13.2
363	140	Bluebird Toys	180	+ ½	6.2	9.6
817½	478	Boosey Hwks	812½	...	1.1	37.5
349	149½	Capital Corp	178	- 4½	5.7	29.0
400	328½	First Leisure	381	- 2	3.0	19.4
823	613	Granada†	895	- 17½	1.8	24.3
245½	143	Ladbroke	231	- 1½	3.2	30.6
387½	212½	London Clubs	387½	+ 5	2.5	25.6
733½	188	Man Utd	698½	- 10½	0.9	46.2
384	279	Millennium & Cop	363½	...	0.2	27.8
547	398	Rank Gp	419½	+ 9½	4.8	14.0
1525	930	Savoy Hotel 'A'	1447½	...	1.2	58.5
215	171½	Sinclair (Wm)	185	...	5.4	11.5
108½	75½	Stakis	108	...	2.5	17.5
373	167½	Stanley Leisure†	302	+ 4	1.5	38.0
193½	155	Thistle Hotels	181½	...	2.4	20.6
710	223½	Tottenham Hot	616½	...	0.9	16.4
412½	306	Wembley	369½	+ 1	...	12.9
130	90½	Zetters Gp†	98½	...	13.0	10.4

MEDIA

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
748	455	Abbott Mead	732½	- 1½	1.6	37.1
305	144½	Adscene	145	...	7.5	12.3
66	37½	Aegis Gp	57½	- ½	0.4	18.5
425	273	Barbour Index	323	...	3.8	32.4
465	355	Bristol	453½	+ 1½	3.9	21.0
697	576	BSkyB	644½	- 10½	1.1	42.3
734	518½	Capital Radio	537½	...	2.9	18.4
527½	378½	Carlton Comm	545½	- 1½	2.6	17.0
1737½	1200	Daily Mail†	1584½	+ 6½	1.4	27.7
893	330	EMAP	803	+ 4	1.8	27.7
1498	1098	EMI	1101	- 25	3.2	24.9
1091	845½	Elsevier	949½	+ 3½	2.0	27.2
259½	168½	GWR Gp	211	+ ½	1.5	38.8
401	284	HTV Group	338	...	1.4	30.4
342½	212	Independent	327½	...	3.0	38.8
241	175	Mirror Gp	208½	+ ½	2.5	15.2
797½	594	Pearson	751	+ 5	2.8	30.2
1220	900	Reed Intl	1075	+ ½	2.9	19.2
614	586	Reuters	642	- ½	2.5	18.4
1403	865	Thomson Corp	1280	- 12½	3.6	26.8
756	555	United News	671½	- 1	4.3	29.8
254½	157	WPP	246½	+ 1½	0.7	21.3
1315	680	Yorkshire TV	1135	+ 5	1.9	32.5

MINING

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
7600	3800	Ang Am Coal	4103½	- 25	3.4	...
4590½	3071½	Ang Am	3603½	+ 28½	2.3	14.4
7387½	4280½	Ang Am Gold†	4281½	- 128½	3.5	...
1809½	718½	Ashanti	818½	+ 21½	2.8	...
1142	854½	CRA	877½	+ 5½	3.7	18.0
2268½	1646½	De Beers	1903½	+ 31½	2.4	24.9
2543½	1406½	GFSA	1581½	+ 21½	1.9	36.9
282½	189	Gencor	218½	+ 7½	1.3	17.9
2026	1171½	Minorco	1468½	+ 21½	2.6	14.0
1080	857	RTZ	911	- 9½	3.7	15.4
7408½	3512½	Vaal Reefs	4168½	- 78½	6.7	...
3668½	1609½	Western Deep	2834½	+ 16½	2.5	40.8
519½	354½	Western Min	393½	- 11½	2.5	23.1
285	30	Zambia Copper	187½	+ 28	...	...

OIL & GAS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
139½	51	Abbot Group	125½	+ ½	1.0	44.3
1372½	316½	Br Borneo	1356	- 2½	0.7	60.0
267½	171½	British Gas	243½	...	7.4	30.9
760	512½	Br Petroleum	727	- 15½	3.2	22.4
1179½	933	Burmah Castrl	1044½	+ 21	4.1	15.0
555½	112½	Cairn Energy	553½	+ 8½	...	...
695½	355	Enterprise	672½	- 2	3.0	37.1
262½	153	LASMO	254	...	...	8.5
3558½	2687½	Norsk Hydro	3471½	- 9½	1.6	11.3
605	380	Ranger	541½	- 13½	3.6	9.5
£118½	8740½	Royal Dtch Ft	£109½	- 21½	3.0	23.9
7075	4293½	Schlumberger	6305½	- 184½	1.5	...
1062½	822	Shell	1058	+ ½	4.1	22.4
5345½	4105½	Total	5290½	...	2.5	22.4
26	12½	XCL	16½	...	...	...

OTHER FINANCIAL

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
143	82½	Aberdeen Tst†	89	...	4.0	...
805	695	Caledonia	776	...	2.9	23.7
2560	1700	Camellia	2400	...	1.7	12.5
482	360	Cater Allen	400	...	9.4	15.8
386	213	Cattles	306	+ 5	3.0	20.6
392	307½	Close Bros	371½	...	3.4	15.0
1395	1075	Henderson Ad	1365	- 3½	4.1	28.5
316	209½	Invesco	314½	+ 7½	1.9	18.2
1390	1048½	M & G	1380	+ 3½	3.3	23.3
1487½	841	MAM	1382½	+ 26½	3.5	28.2
2685	1830	Perpetual	2685	+ 12½	2.7	18.8
546	395	Provident	545½	+ 5½	3.4	39.5
64½	37½	Rutland Tst	64½	...	2.5	19.1
457	200	S & U	421	...	4.9	10.6
1782½	1165	Schroders	1757½	+ 5	1.2	20.0
1577½	890	Schroders NV	1552½	- 5	1.4	17.7
146½	99½	Singer & Fried	146	+ 7	3.6	10.7

PHARMACEUTICALS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
350	163½	Brit Biotech	240	+ 8½	...	...
910	349	Cantab Pharm	835	- 42½	...	...
693	441	Celltech	682½	+ 1	...	...
568	324	Chiroscience	357½	+ 19	...	...
1034½	767	Glaxo Well	1007½	+ 6½	3.7	18.1
285	208	Medeva	272½	- 2½	1.9	15.4
868	524	Scotia	691½	+ 2½	...	...
898½	628½	SmithKline	862	- 2½	2.2	30.8
1806	1216	Zeneca	1762½	+ 16	2.3	38.4

PRINTING & PAPER

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
155½	127½	AG Holdings	141	...	5.3	11.7
782	547	API	745	+ 2½	1.8	23.7
212	149	Arjo Wiggins	164	+ 2	5.7	...
443½	359	Bemrose	436½	...	4.2	14.5
770	645	Br Polythene	717½	+ 2	3.0	15.4
245½	191	Bunzl	200	- 7½	3.8	12.4
755	526½	De La Rue	595½	- 2	5.0	15.2
574	387	Low & Bonar	390	+ 1½	4.4	10.8
410	328½	REXAM	320½	- 2	5.5	15.4
539½	425½	St Ives Gp	533½	...	2.3	18.6
344	254	Smith (David)	266	- 4	3.6	8.9
481	373	Watmough	446½	+ 3	2.7	19.3
243	180	Wyndeham	234½	+ 1	2.5	16.8

PROPERTY

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
97	57	Allied Lon	89½	...	5.8	16.1
546	376	Br Land†	526	- 2½	2.1	40.6
218	164	Brixton	210½	+ ½	5.2	19.1
363	216	Cap Shop Ctrs	372½	...	2.6	32.2
326½	170½	Chelsfield	323½	+ 5	1.1	55.8
1410	1125	Daejan†	1395	+ 3½	3.1	16.0
475½	307	Derwent Hldgs	475½	...	1.5	32.9
428	330½	Hammerson	427½	+ 1	3.2	26.9
795	598	Land Sec	782½	+ 5	4.1	23.6
476	369½	MEPC	467½	+ 10	5.3	22.0
283	192½	Slough Estates	279½	- 1½	3.9	22.1
117½	41	Wood John Dt	102½	- 1	3.7	10.2

RETAILERS, FOOD

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
129½	100½	ASDA Group†	115½	+ 1	3.0	13.7
785	445	Brake Bros	445	- 30	2.7	12.4
1475	1150	Greggs	1467½	...	2.3	18.1
161	73½	Iceland Group	90	- 1	7.5	5.4
520	280	Kwik Save	287½	- 3½	8.7	9.7
177	142	Morrison (W)	147	- 2½	1.2	13.8
430	291	Safeway†	357½	- 4½	4.6	13.6
425	320	Sainsbury J	320½	- 5	4.8	13.2
179	145½	Somerfield†	165½	- 1½	6.6	6.6
371½	261	Tesco	342½	- 2	3.6	15.2
222½	133	Thorntons	220½	...	3.0	...
575	335½	Watson& Philp†	417½	...	5.2	11.8

RETAILERS, GENERAL

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
769	508	Argos	659½	+ 3	2.9	23.3
694	550	Boots	694	+ 10	3.4	18.5
162½	125	Burton†	148	+ ½	2.4	13.1
587½	403½	Dixons Grp†	498	- 12	2.2	18.7
770	578	GUS†	631	- 3½	3.4	16.5
695	504	Kingfisher	695	- 3½	3.1	19.1
537	416½	Marks Spencer	492	- 1	3.0	19.4
603½	420	Next	571½	- 4	2.8	23.6
534	390	Smith WH†	435½	- 2½	4.5	...
382	245½	Storehouse†	292½	+ 8½	3.2	19.5
240	198	Wyevale	240	+ 1½	3.0	17.9

SUPPORT SERVICES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1560	883	ADT	1357½	...	...	...
482½	314½	AEA Tech	470	- 6	2.0	21.7
1075	329	CMG	1035	- 10	0.7	46.6
592½	265	Capita Group	592½	+ 7½	1.0	49.0
565½	382	Hays	554	- 1½	1.8	24.9
1007	452	Logica	880	...	1.1	32.9
1132½	570	Misys†	1072½	- 7	1.3	32.7
476	325	Rentokil	476	+ 3½	1.2	32.7
1175	519½	Serco Gp	1130	+ 8	0.6	44.4
224½	127	Waste Recyg	220	...	1.1	30.0

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
449	326½	BT†	435½	- 2½	5.5	13.4
554	397	Cable Wireless†	489½	+ 8	2.7	17.7
214½	155	General Cable	174½	+ 5½	...	...
127	85½	NYNEX Cable	104½	+ 4	...	...
254	185	Orange	207½	+ 1½	...	...
318	243	Securicor	298½	+ ½	0.7	26.9
190	104½	TeleWest	113	+ 4	...	...
298½	208½	Vodafone	287½	- 4	1.9	26.1

TEXTILES & APPAREL

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
70½	41	Albion	70½	+ 5	3.2	...
249	172½	Allied Text	205½	...	4.9	...
211	160	Baird (Wm)	189	...	5.9	40.5
208	117	Coats Viyella	128½	...	8.5	12.3
427	213	Courtauld Text	254	...	7.5	14.7
196	172	Dewhirst (IJ)	173	...	2.7	14.3
335	181	Yorklyde	202½	...	4.9	11.2

TRANSPORT

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
209½	187	Air London	207½	...	3.7	13.3
318	260	Assoc Br Ports	309½	+ ½	3.8	17.1
555	447	BAA	527½	- 5	2.8	16.6
615	464	Br Airways	597½	+ 11	2.9	11.0
117	62	Eurotunnel Uts	80	...	...	...
256	139½	FirstBus†	243½	+ 4½	2.7	17.5
481½	372	Ocean Group	460	- 5	4.0	18.2
664	467	P & O Dfd	662	+ 9½	5.6	17.7
421½	205	Railtrack (FP)†	391½	+ 16½	4.4	13.0
801	317½	Stagecoach†	733½	- 6	1.3	31.6
229	167½	TDG	185	...	6.7	13.9

WATER

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
837	512	Anglian†	830	+ 2½	6.2	7.6
836	656	Hyder†	835	+ 4	6.1	11.5
727	548	Severn Trent†	726½	+ 5½	5.8	8.7
731	489	South West†	685½	- 2	5.9	7.6
685	526½	Thames†	682½	...	5.5	8.8
687	509	Utd Utilities†	687½	- 5½	6.2	12.5
384	286	Wessex†	377½	...	5.3	7.5
791	580	Yorkshire†	751½	+ 5	5.3	9.9

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
107½	18	Abacus Recruit	100½	...	...	28.7
213	35	Cafe Inns	200	- 5	1.5	15.4
2525	860	Dawson Hldgs	2525	...	2.0	18.1
239½	85½	Old English Pub	239½	+ 1	0.8	75.2
635	520	Southern Newsp	635	...	3.2	19.5
79½	50	Southern Vectis	65½	...	3.6	15.2
496	132	Surrey Fr Inns	471	...	0.7	32.5

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BRITISH FUNDS

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7% 1997	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.97	6.12
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 10½% 1997	[illegible]	[illegible]	10.50	6.32
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8¾% 1997	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.63	6.12
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 15% 1997	[illegible]	[illegible]	14.15	6.20
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 9¾% 1998	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.45	6.29
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7¼% 1998	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.18	6.33
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 14% 1998-01	[illegible]	[illegible]	12.83	6.45
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 15½% 1998	[illegible]	[illegible]	13.84	6.58
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 12% 1998	[illegible]	[illegible]	11.01	6.53
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 9½% 1999	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.03	6.61
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 12¼% 1999	[illegible]	[illegible]	11.04	6.63
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 10½% 1999	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.72	6.57
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 6% 1999	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.07	6.58
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 10¼% 1999	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.42	6.71
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 9% 2000	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.48	6.74
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 2000	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.89	6.78
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 13% 2000	[illegible]	[illegible]	10.96	6.81
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 10% 2001	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.02	6.89
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7% 2001	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.98	6.87
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 9¾% 2002	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.67	6.98
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 2003	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.80	6.98
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 10% 2003	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.87	7.05
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 11¾% 2001-04	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.90	6.99
[illegible]	[illegible]	Fund 3½% 1999-04	[illegible]	[illegible]	4.08	5.85
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 9½% 2004	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.33	7.10
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 6¾% 2004	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.87	7.05
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8½% 2005	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.82	7.14
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 9½% 2005	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.31	7.14
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 12½% 2003-05	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.70	7.07
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7½% 2006	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.33	7.18
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7¾% 2006	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.47	7.19
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 2002-06	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.74	7.09
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.59	7.04
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8½% 2007	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.76	7.20
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 9% 2008	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.92	7.25
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 2009	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.55	7.29
LONGS (over 15 years)						
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 6¼% 2010	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.90	7.35
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 9% 2011	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.95	7.33
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 9% 2012	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.82	7.34
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 5½% 2008-12	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.46	7.10
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 2013	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.54	7.36
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.45	7.36
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 2015	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.50	7.33
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8¾% 2017	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.88	7.38
[illegible]	[illegible]	Tr 8% 2021	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.45	7.34
UNDATED						
[illegible]	[illegible]	War Ln 3½%	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.45	...
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 2½%	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.67	...
[illegible]	[illegible]	Consols 4%	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.67	...
INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:					10%	5%
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	1.59
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2001	[illegible]	[illegible]	2.51	3.08
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2003	[illegible]	[illegible]	2.72	3.14
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	[illegible]	[illegible]	2.78	3.15
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2% 2006	[illegible]	[illegible]	2.81	3.20
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2009	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.02	3.26
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2011	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.10	3.31
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2013	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.16	3.34
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2016	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.22	3.39
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2020	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.31	3.45
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2024	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.32	3.45
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.32	3.45

Source: FT Information

Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; ▲ Ex rights issue; ▼ Ex all; § Ex capital distribution. * Figures or report awaited. No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 Index.

هكذا من الاصل

For AIB see Guard Listing

AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS
01203 563 231

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
General Acc	717.30	763.10	+ 6.70	2.27
General Inc	598.70	637.00	+ 5.80	3.27
UK Growth Acc	498.60	530.50	+ 4.60	2.41
UK Growth Inc	322.70	343.30	+ 2.90	3.41
Higher Inc Acc	896.30	953.60	+ 9.70	3.74
Higher Inc Inc	477.50	508.00	+ 5.20	3.74
UK Fixed Int Acc	248.40	264.20	+ 1.90	5.35
UK Fixed Int Inc	95.64	101.80	+ 0.70	5.35
Nth America	374.00	397.90	+ 0.40	...
Europe	391.90	417.00	+ 5.50	0.10
Intl Excell	90.46	104.80	+ 0.00	2.53
Emr Markets Acc	126.80	134.90	+ 1.30	4.31
Emr Markets Inc	94.75	90.17	+ 0.83	4.31
Global Opps	104.00	110.70	+ 0.70	...
Balanced Acc	66.71	70.97	+ 0.56	2.38
Balanced Inc	62.29	66.27	+ 0.52	2.38
Japan Acc	36.33	38.63	+ 0.68	...
Pac Basin Acc	417.00	437.80	- 1.70	0.78

ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS
0345 717 373

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Gilt & Fixed Int	136.30	144.60	+ 1.50	6.58
High Inc Equity	136.00	209.60†	+ 1.30	4.57
Worldwide Bond	269.90	286.20†	+ 2.00	4.66
European Growth	419.80	446.80†	+ 4.10	0.37
South Pacific	336.70	360.10	- 0.10	0.38
Assets & Earnings	324.90	347.50	+ 2.00	2.72
Fixed Capital Acc	203.90	218.70	+ 2.20	0.73
Extra Inc	43.05	45.80†	+ 0.01	7.99
General	291.20	309.80†	+ 2.50	2.81
Global Opps	74.15	78.80	+ 0.74	0.51
Japan	86.96	93.01	+ 1.64	...
Managed Inc	49.63	52.80†	+ 0.33	4.26
Mid-Market	175.10	187.30	+ 1.30	1.39
UK Emerging Cos	200.10	212.90	+ 1.00	...
Ethical	87.96	93.57	+ 0.44	1.84
International	139.40	148.30†	+ 1.40	0.67
Dividend & Growth	72.41	77.03†	+ 0.40	4.36
Global Gilts & Sec	74.53	79.72	+ 0.14	2.33
Latin America	77.06	82.00	+ 1.26	0.49
Capital Reserve	147.50	147.60	+ 0.10	4.74

ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0131 220 0733

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Small Cos	2526.00	2626.00		

ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0800 833 388

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Amer Inc & Growth	64.73	67.19	+ 0.32	0.14
Emerging Mkts	78.47	81.73	+ 0.41	0.04
European	162.80	169.20†	+ 1.40	...
Extra Income #	31.37	34.07	+ 0.39	6.02
Far East Emg Eqn	130.70	137.10	- 0.20	0.46
Fixed Interest #	26.31	27.36†	+ 0.08	9.06
Fixed Inc Tst #	163.00	177.10†	+ 0.60	3.97
Japan	150.10	156.00	+ 2.50	...
Latin American	66.77	69.47	+ 0.77	0.70
Pacific	81.44	85.45	+ 0.04	0.31
Property Share	80.01	84.00†	+ 0.18	2.09
UK Emerging Cos	75.10	81.17†	+ 0.06	1.19
UK Growth	59.57	62.04	+ 0.44	1.69
Aber World Port #	85.41	88.25	+ 0.54	2.82
Ethical	82.74	86.05	+ 0.33	2.05
Aberdeen Gil Inc #	51.04	51.09	+ 0.16	7.25

AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0171 256 5666

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Recdl Property #	98.33	104.60†		5.43

ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD
01452 305 958

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Andy Income	99.23	105.28	+ 0.54	2.15
Income Builder Inc	86.11	91.61	+ 0.70	4.17

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC
BA dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01733 514 514

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	306.10	327.20	+ 2.10	2.84
Capital	543.20	581.30	+ 4.20	1.68
Balanced	897.30	948.50	+ 7.00	2.57
Accumulator	1730.00	1838.00	+14.00	1.70
Income Trusts				
American Income	68.27	72.81†	+ 0.68	2.19
High Income	493.30	527.20	- 3.40	4.65
Equity Income	375.30	394.20†	+ 2.00	3.77
High Yield	298.40	319.90	+ 1.90	3.76
Gilt Securities	35.92	37.92†	+ 0.34	5.76
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	241.00	257.10	+ 2.90	0.05
European Growth	60.15	64.10†	+ 0.45	0.06
International	192.20	205.30†	+ 1.20	0.11
Japan	153.00	163.50†	- 0.30	...
Pacific	400.00	427.50†	+ 1.60	...
Sects of America	545.00	586.30	+11.40	0.11
Zenith Asset Mgt	56.81	60.72†	+ 0.35	0.02
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	693.30	741.10	+ 5.50	1.84
Conv & Gilt	52.32	55.93†	+ 0.27	3.79
Smaller Cos	222.10	237.40†	+ 0.70	0.95
Prof Smaller Cos	211.40	225.90	+ 0.60	0.82
Recovery	178.60	191.10	+ 0.97	1.48
Met Min & Cdty	164.70	176.00	- 0.40	0.16
Cross Earnings	455.90	487.30†	+ 3.60	1.00
Technology	226.90	242.40	+ 2.10	...
UK Special Sits	637.20	681.10	+ 2.90	0.92

B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
01253 326 911

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Cautiot Dist Fnds	125.00	129.80		0
Foundtn Pensl Pnsn	73.28	76.13		0

BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0171 900 0033

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Capital	92.99	98.50†	+ 0.65	0.76
International	69.66	74.11		

BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD
0131 222 4242

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Japanese	382.10	386.90	- 1.50	...
Bond	122.70	129.00†	+ 1.20	8.34
Intl Stock Cos	120.50	128.20†	+ 0.20	1.74
Cons & Gen #	69.80	74.04†	+ 0.11	5.21
Europe	304.70	322.60	+ 5.00	0.25
Emr Stock Cos	131.10	138.30	+ 1.20	0.56
Income Gwth	397.70	421.10	+ 0.70	4.45
Japan	257.10	272.20	+ 4.10	...
Latin American	97.76	104.00	+ 1.10	0.63
Pacific	120.90	128.00	- 0.30	0.97
UK Smlr Cos	60.35	64.30†	+ 0.21	1.23
Japan Fd	510.00	505.60†	+ 7.10	...
Mngd Fd	213.60	226.70	+ 1.70	2.65

BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD
0171 488 0673

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Bnk & Comm	355.50	418.30		0.86
Capital Gwth	137.40	145.30		2.95
World Opps	234.90	248.50		0.87

BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD
0181 592 4000

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Balanced Trusts				
Gwth & Inc Inc	452.40	482.00	+ 3.30	2
European Bd Inc	98.74	102.20†	+ 0.20	5.79
Energy	91.07	96.88	+ 0.57	2.51
S30	536.90	577.30	+ 0.80	2.09
General	354.50	377.70	+ 2.30	2.11
Property	253.10	271.60		4.94
Income	245.40	262.10†	+ 1.80	2.17
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	103.58	100.50†		5.88
Distribution '3' #	119.80	120.00	+ 0.90	5.82
Extra Income #	149.60	159.50	+ 1.00	4.41
Fixd Int Inc	61.25	63.14	+ 0.58	7.48
Income #	626.30	666.10†	+ 3.60	4.40
Income Builder #	73.67	78.66	- 0.33	4.96
Intl Income	75.29	80.20†	+ 0.56	2.26
Growth Trusts - UP				
Capital	155.10	165.00†	- 0.80	1.72
FTSE 100	110.10	116.90	+ 0.90	2.43
Leisure	180.70	191.10	+ 0.40	1.08
Recovery	535.90	571.60	+ 1.00	2.28
Smlr Cos Inc	63.26	68.75	+ 1.30	2.14
Global Stlc	442.80	472.20	+ 3.20	1.79
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
Americas	192.20	203.40	+ 2.30	0.30
F East Gwth Acc	306.00	325.50	- 0.40	0.25
Far East Cap	181.50	193.10	- 0.20	0.25
Euro Gwth Inc	294.30	216.30	+ 3.70	0.55
Inc - Accum	252.30	275.20	+ 4.10	0.55
Japan	109.10	115.90	- 2.30	0.25
Nth America	110.40	116.80	- 0.20	...
Japan Spec Sits	51.79	54.86	+ 1.04	...
Asia Gwth	202.10	214.80†	+ 2.30	0.38

BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD
0171 214 1004

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
American Growth	149.30	156.90	+ 1.50	
Asia Smlr Cos	153.50	170.20		
Convertibles	61.96	66.15	+ 0.03	4.68
Eastern	329.40	339.80	+ 1.70	0.30
Equity Income #	107.73	115.30†	+ 0.70	4.20
European Growth	432.10	427.40	+ 5.40	0.80
Gilts	398.60	425.30	+ 4.30	0.80
Smlr Cos Growth	91.15	97.15	+ 1.10	0.50
Global Bond	71.72	75.40†	+ 0.33	6.20
Global Growth	143.80	159.20	- 1.40	0.40
South Growth	157.80	167.20	+ 2.70	
Japan Smlr Cos	116.00	123.00	+ 0.70	
Japan Trust	56.74	59.30	+ 0.16	
Pacific	156.80	167.50	- 0.90	2.00
UK Growth	297.20	317.60	- 1.20	2.00
UK Income	119.70	127.30	- 0.80	1.50
UK Smlr Cos	107.90	116.70	- 0.30	1.90
Select Emerging	93.01	99.70	+ 0.39	1.00

BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD
0171 236 3000

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Intl Cash Port Inc	90.44	95.211		
Capital Opps Inc	66.04	70.251		

BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD
0141 223 6020

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Balanced Growth	156.40	165.50	+ 1.00	1.29
Smaller Cos	132.14	132.74	+ 1.26	1.29
Smaller Cos	175.60	183.70	+ 0.30	0.48
Higher Inc# #	60.83	64.37†	+ 0.44	3.89
American Cos Inc	111.18	117.65†	+ 0.24	...
European Growth	176.23	186.61	+ 3.61	0.03
Pacific Basin	181.82	192.40	+ 3.91	0.03
Mngd Portfolio Inc	57.01	60.30	+ 0.42	1.20
Inc - Accum	98.16	62.98	+ 0.43	1.20
Japan Cos	153.56	161.18	+ 0.54	...
Pacific Cos	163.32	172.84	+ 0.73	...
UK General #	106.05	112.25†	+ 2.07	2.96
UK Smlr Cos #	115.10	121.80	+ 2.24	2.06
Japan	44.22	46.79†	+ 0.47	
Gil & Fixed Int #	184.53	195.63	+ 1.07	8.09

SURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
0171 480 7216

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Short Dated Gil	67.52	68.49	+ 0.12	6.30

CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD
0161 837 5060

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Equity	196.70	207.00	- 0.80	1.77
UK Growth	228.50	240.50†	+ 1.70	2.05
UK Income	162.00	170.50	+ 1.70	4.03

CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD
01707 822 100

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Can Gen Dep	242.20	252.00†	+ 2.50	1.51
Inc - Income Dist	136.20	144.40	+ 1.40	3.46
Inc - Accum	445.00	472.60	+ 4.50	3.46
Gilt & Fixd Int	41.55	43.66†	+ 0.38	6.23
Equity Units	270.20	295.20	- 2.50	1.58
Bond	184.40	193.90	+ 1.50	6.40
Cash	237.70	253.00	+ 2.10	0.10
North American	278.10	293.50	+ 1.90	0.79
Far East	313.90	335.70	- 0.30	0.56
UK Smaller Cos	249.70	266.00	+ 1.40	0.20
European	192.90	199.20	+ 1.50	0.46
Japanese Growth	26.58	27.84	+ 0.01	
High Income	248.50	266.70	+ 2.20	3.96

CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD
01161 831 7433 Dlg 0161 831 7455

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
American & Gen	225.63	250.10	+ 1.10	
European Inc	102.70	109.00	+ 1.20	0.30
Smaller Cos (4-1)	118.00	125.60	+ 0.30	1.97
Sitara	592.00	629.00	+ 5.00	1.97
Income & Growth #	495.30	527.00†	+ 4.60	3.82
Dp - Accum #	758.40	807.90	+ 7.00	3.52
Japan & Gen	51.06	54.15	+ 0.67	
Mixed Portfolio	£130.63	£136.08†	+£11.00	1.69
Dp - Accum	£165.65	£169.69	+£20.00	1.69
Dp - Income	£135.99	£144.54†	+ 1.30	1.98
High Yield	£96.67	£16.57	+£1.00	3.96

CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
0171 606 0700

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Overseas Portfolio	107.26	114.35†	+ 0.50	2.14
American Portfolio	132.77	140.04		1.01
European Portfolio	148.15	157.82	+ 1.16	0.58
High Income	53.56	53.67†	+ 0.48	7.37
Japanese Portfolio	92.67	96.99†	+ 1.01	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Pacific Portfolio	164.22	176.80	- 0.54	1.00
UK Equity	104.60	111.74	+ 0.55	2.11
UK Equity & Bd	61.99	65.69	+ 0.03	0.13
UK Smlr Cos	56.14	60.05	- 0.08	1.25

CENT RD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG
0171 588 1815

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Inv Fund	613.40	657.72		4.13
Fed In Sec	159.73	160.37		0.52

COIF CHARITY FUNDS
0171 588 1815

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Investment Inc	89.53	119.83		4.20
Investment Acc	137.70	138.27		...
Fixed Int Inc	126.38	128.90		9.00
Fixed Int Acc	239.12	240.08		

CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD
0171 407 5900

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Backwood Intl	89.95	93.92		5.33
Deck Bm-Tech	45.95	48.98		...
Acorn Ethical Tst	191.92	201.22		0.42
City Fin Assets	83.38	87.57	+ 0.40	1.75
City Fin Intl	89.86	94.38		0.13
Friars Hse Gap	323.14	343.77†	+ 2.07	2.30
Dudley Wld Grp	142.03	150.56		...
J Sci Inc/Gilt Inc	58.69	62.58		3.92
Shaw Utilities	88.16	87.60	+ 0.40	8.56

CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Emerging Markets	56.01	61.56	+ 0.23	

CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD
0345 772 233

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
American Gwth	86.70	91.17	- 0.09	
Dragon Growth	74.36	79.54	- 0.38	0.23
Equity High Inc	96.24	105.14	+ 0.98	3.83
- do - Accum	143.12	153.17	+ 1.43	3.83
Extra Income Inc	37.44	38.89†	+ 0.19	6.79
Extra Income Acc	30.63	32.75	+ 0.21	6.79
European Gwth	67.93	72.07	+ 1.12	0.47
Gengroup	32.37	34.62	+ 0.29	
General Equity	114.59	121.54	+ 0.79	2.60
Japan Growth	36.95	39.32	+ 0.67	
Pedigree Gwth	69.08	74.04	+ 0.53	2.08
Ped Sm Cos Inc	40.82	43.69	- 0.03	0.98
- do - Accum	43.51	46.79	- 0.02	0.96
Retirement Inc #	30.01	31.96	+ 0.31	5.57
Special Sits	50.33	54.13	+ 0.17	2.20
UK & Overseas	62.21	66.11	+ 0.34	0.48

COLONIAL UNIT TRUSTS (UK) LTD
01634 838 880

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Balanced	74.32	77.411	+ 0.62	3.90
Capital	69.42	93.141	+ 0.74	2.46
High Income	53.77	56.69†	+ 0.59	6.45
Top 50	61.06	63.60†	+ 0.67	2.41

COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD
0181 686 9818

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	209.61	218.37	+ 1.51	4.21
Long Gilt	49.84	47.727	+ 0.78	5.84
Monthly Inc Pfns	52.52	54.92	+ 0.63	0.17
Preferred Stock	50.27	52.37†	+ 0.60	7.44
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	152.37	158.74†	+ 1.40	5.97
Managed Fund	79.89	83.23	+ 0.42	2.66
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	57.30	59.69	+ 0.11	1.59
- do - Accum	67.72	70.55	+ 0.13	1.59
UK & General	106.71	111.17	+ 0.62	2.71
- do - Accum	140.41	146.28	+ 0.82	2.71
UK Growth	214.89	223.87	+ 1.29	1.25
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	230.75	240.38	+ 3.30	1.00
Far Eastern Gwth	129.96	135.39	- 0.11	0.02
Global Bond	75.69	78.85	+ 0.14	6.29
Japan Growth	89.64	93.38	+ 1.82	
North Amer Gwth	261.05	271.96	+ 1.92	
Oriental Growth	87.51	91.17	- 0.60	0.25
Worldwide Growth	74.86	77.78	+ 0.66	
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.52	92.82	+ 0.03	5.20
Remainder Fund	94.86	100.93†	+ 0.73	1.50
Outlier Fund	164.51	175.03†	+ 1.12	2.06

CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD
0171 407 5966

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Consistent Ut	37.43	39.991		3.93

COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD
0800 526 358

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Growth	190.50	202.70	+ 0.70	1.29
Income	76.92	81.83†	+ 0.70	4.24
European	88.47	95.61	+ 0.91	0.59
Recovery	195.00	208.30	- 0.40	2.38

CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD
0171 283 9494

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Equity Dist	1943.40	1059.70		3.28

CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD
01277 680 370

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Fellowship Tst	117.80	125.30	+ 0.30	1.10
Income #	303.20	322.50	+ 2.20	4.34
- do - Accum #	809.30	860.90	+ 5.80	4.34
Smaller Cos	244.00	264.80†	- 0.10	0.90
- do - Accum	318.20	325.90	- 0.20	0.90
Gilt Portfolio	107.80	114.60†	+ 0.70	1.24
High Inc Port #	88.53	94.18	+ 0.64	4.63

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
- do - Accum	262.40	301.70	+ 1.30	
Income & Growth	238.50	253.70	+ 2.00	3.95
- do - Accum	385.30	409.50	+ 3.30	3.95
Intl Growth	431.20	459.00	+ 3.30	
- do - Accum	476.80	510.60	+ 3.70	...
Japan & Gen	131.90	140.30	+ 2.00	...
- do - Accum	135.50	141.60	+ 1.00	
Monthly Inc #	208.00	222.30†	+ 1.00	4.38
- do - Accum #	211.50	225.00†	+ 1.10	4.38
Managed Port Inc	125.50	132.10	+ 0.80	1.39
- do - Accum	136.30	143.50	+ 1.00	1.38
Quality Income #	39.07	83.11†	- 0.15	5.28
- do - Accum #	69.69	73.80†	- 0.47	5.28
Recovery	348.60	364.30†	+ 2.50	
- do - Accum	402.10	430.10†	+ 3.00	
UK Growth	71.48	76.64	+ 0.52	2
- do - Accum	77.50	82.45	+ 0.55	2

FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS
Dealing 01722 715835 Enq 01722 715834

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
FP American	67.19	71.63	+ 0.68	0.05
FP Ann Smlr Cos	204.30	217.90	- 0.80	...
FP Asian Growth	230.50	243.40	- 1.00	
FP Australian	417.00	444.80	- 4.30	
FP Bonley Dist	492.50	525.30	+ 3.90	2.22
- do - Accum	1110.90	1111.72	+ 7.80	2.22
FP Euro Gth	317.00	338.18	+ 4.80	
- do - Accum	346.80	369.90	+ 5.20	
FP Intl Bond	56.18	58.441	+ 0.24	3.98
FP Intl Gth Dist	39.06	41.66	+ 0.26	
- do - Accum	57.38	61.30	+ 0.52	
FP Pac Basin Acc	213.20	227.40	+ 0.00	
FP Income #	82.92	87.12	+ 0.43	4.69
- do - Accum #	223.70	238.60	+ 1.50	4.69
FP Jap Smlr Cos	223.90	238.80	+ 1.80	
FP Monthly Dist #	79.55	84.85†	+ 0.57	5.22
FP Stg Deposit	100.40	100.40	+ 0.10	5.22
FP Tokyo	63.10	67.30	+ 0.05	
FP UK Focus	43.37	46.26	+ 0.22	1.48
FP UK Growth	214.00	228.20	+ 1.30	1.89
- do - Accum	435.30	464.20	+ 2.50	1.59
Shareholdings Dist	478.60	508.30	+ 0.40	1.11
- do - Accum	602.20	642.30	+ 0.50	1.11
Shareslip Inc Dist #	84.01	89.61†	+ 0.09	4.43
- do - Accum #	117.50	125.30	+ 0.10	4.43
N Am Shlrp Dist	132.10	140.90	- 0.10	0.22
- do - Accum	142.20	151.60	- 0.10	0.22
FP Exempt Trust				
Incl Editial In #	114.70	115.20	+ 0.20	3.50
Incl Ethical Ac #	114.70	115.20	+ 0.20	3.50
FP Managed Portfolio Series				
Cautiot Gwth Acc	131.50	140.30	+ 0.60	1.24
Open Cap Gth Acc	136.10	144.70	+ 0.50	0.00
Cap Gth Inc Inc #	121.20	128.90†	+ 0.40	3.16
Cap Gth Inc Acc #	129.80	139.60	+ 0.40	3.16
Opt Cp Gth Inc Ac #	125.60	132.90†	+ 0.40	3.89
Opt Cp Gth Inc Ac	145.10	154.10	+ 0.50	3.86

GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0345 581 1087

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
GANDA	317.30	336.70	+ 1.50	1.76
Cash	49.31	50.05†	+ 0.01	4.83
Growth Portfolio	92.59	98.50†	+ 1.00	1.65
Income Portfolio	76.76	81.44†	+ 0.60	2.80

GEM DOLPHIN INV MGRS LTD
0171 236 8441

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Special Sits	245.20	262.40	+ 1.30	0.29
Dividend	105.60	112.90†	+ 1.00	4.11
Intl Gth & Inc	265.00	284.10†	+ 3.00	2.26
UK & Gen	54.47	58.28	+ 0.59	1.42
Fund of Fnds	78.72	84.19	+ 0.16	...

GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD
Inv 0800 212274 Dealing 0171 626 9431

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
American Smlr Cos	230.50	246.60	+ 1.10	0.14
European Gth	789.50	830.70	+ 7.80	0.57
Euro Eq & Bd Inc	54.54	58.88	+ 0.57	5.06
- do - Accum	64.19	67.98	+ 0.49	5.04
Far East & Gen	276.00	297.40	- 0.20	
High Yield #	51.17	54.14†	+ 0.45	7.41
- do - Accum #	58.22	61.60	+ 0.51	7.41
Income Inc	210.10	224.80	+ 1.60	3.62
- do - Accum	240.30	257.00	+ 2.30	3.62
Intl Growth	395.30	420.80	+ 2.80	0.29
Intl Income	98.67	104.40	+ 0.80	2.61
Japan Growth	404.30	428.90	+ 3.30	
Orient Acc	214.40	229.30	+ 2.70	0.13
UK General Inc	203.00	217.20†	+ 1.30	1.61
UK General Acc	364.40	389.80	+ 2.40	1.61
UK Sm Cos Div Acc	66.33	70.95	- 0.02	1.64
UK Spec Sits	111.40	119.20		1.38
US Growth	199.00	211.20	+ 1.40	
Worldw Spec Sits	168.70	179.70	+ 1.00	

GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS
0171 782 2000 Dlgs only: 01277 284 421

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Growth Funds:				
British Growth	64.40	68.73†	+ 0.48	1.98
Cash Trust	148.51	148.511	+ 0.05	5.54
Practical Inv Inc #	128.30	137.22	+ 0.41	3.51
- do - Accum #	310.45	332.03	+ 1.00	3.51
UK Index	195.67	198.05	+ 1.54	3.20
UK Smaller Cos	227.52	243.34	+ 0.97	0.25
Income Funds				
Extra Yield	25.54	26.47†	+ 0.27	7.22
High Income	37.14	39.58†	+ 0.37	4.50
UK Equity Income	170.72	182.66†	+ 1.41	2.97
Global Bond	28.34	29.38	+ 0.07	4.73
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	50.35	53.86	+ 0.15	
Global Managed	150.00	159.56	+ 1.20	0.98
Gold & Intl Res	113.21	130.12	- 1.24	
Global Utilities	158.30	168.65†	+ 0.60	1.12
Overseas Funds				
American	215.45	228.40	+ 1.17	0.54
European	147.09	156.04	+ 2.21	0.51
Euro Sel Opps	227.16	241.21†	+ 3.75	
Asian Emerging	183.15	195.47	- 1.11	
Hong Kong	165.64	198.41	- 1.23	1.12
Japan	176.56	187.55	+ 3.43	
Pacific Growth	234.75	251.77	- 0.79	
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Managed Equity	274.81	274.81†	+ 1.44	1.85
Long Term Bal	292.26	292.26†	+ 1.52	2.85
Med Term Bal	241.25	241.25†	+ 1.66	2.84
UK Equity	228.96	228.96	+ 1.44	2.38
UK Emerging Cos	194.97	194.97	+ 0.47	1.88
American	358.50	358.50	+ 3.13	0.43
Japan	101.01	101.01	+ 0.74	
European	382.09	382.09	+ 4.90	0.70
Inter United Cdm	195.53	195.53	+ 2.88	2.58
Fixed Interest	185.77	185.77†	+ 1.76	5.88
Asian Emergnts	403.97	403.97	- 4.00	
Pacific	298.86	298.86	- 0.47	0.77
Emerging Mkts	133.21	133.21†	+ 0.93	0.38
Inter Stock Jpnse	108.04	108.04†	+ 1.93	0.26
- do - Pacific Rim	216.01	216.01†	- 1.29	0.98
- do - Cont Europn	203.92	203.92†	+ 2.70	1.43
Index Stock USA	211.17	211.17†	+ 1.82	1.34
Gartmore Personal Pensions Funds				
Managed Equity	129.79	138.07	+ 0.73	
Med Term Bal	115.29	122.65	+ 0.85	...
Long Term Bal	131.80	140.21	+ 0.73	...
UK Equity	153.26	163.03	+ 0.87	...
UK Emerging Cos	91.84	97.70	+ 0.24	...

LAW

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Gary Slapper on the growing enthusiasm by victims of crime for the civil courts

CORNISH PHOTO NEWS

Linda Griffiths, left, won £50,000 damages for rape after the CPS failed to prosecute; O.J. Simpson, not guilty of murder but liable in the civil courts

Any court in a storm

Not long before O.J. Simpson was found liable last week in a Californian civil court for the homicide of his former wife Nicole and her friend Ronald Goldman, a civil summons relating to homicide was issued in London by the father of the murdered doctor Joan Francisco.

The Central London County Court summons is a claim for assault and battery against the man who Ms Francisco's relatives believe was her killer. It is the first civil action arising from a murder where no previous criminal prosecution has been brought.

Over the past few years there has been a growing use of the civil courts to litigate against people who have committed crimes for which the State has been unwilling or unable to convict. In a storm of anger and resentment, victims are willing to use any part of the legal system to have an alleged wrongdoer condemned and recent civil actions have included claims in respect of incidents as serious as rape.

The British Retail Consortium (BRC), frustrated at the low level of prosecutions of shoplifters, has just called for the new "civil recovery" system to be introduced in which thieves could be sued for compensation. The request is now being considered at the Home Office.

The use of civil procedure to address wrongs which appear essentially criminal raises many important questions both practical and jurisprudential. Perhaps the most serious question is — does such cross-litigation matter?

In essence, there is no difference between a crime and a civil wrong. Nothing is inherently and eternally criminal. Lending money at a rate of interest used to be a crime in early English history, but now it is a reputable business. The use of opiate drugs for recreational purposes used to be acceptable, but in modern times such behaviour is criminal. A crime is simply anything the State has chosen to criminalise. There are more than 7,000 different crimes but, as Lord Atkin once said, "the only common nature they will be found to possess is that they are prohibited by the State, and those that commit them are punished".

It is the violation of this principle that can be sufficiently enraging to some victims to propel them into the civil courts, motivated not by the desire for compensation, but by a wish for a court to condemn the alleged wrongdoer. Caron Thatcher, the solicitor acting for the family of Dr Francisco, said: "The family's ultimate aim is to have justice done for Joan ... we hope that during the course of these proceedings more evidence may emerge which will result in the CPS reviewing the case."

A similar feeling prompted Linda Griffiths into the civil courts. Ms Griffiths complained that she had been raped by Arthur Williams, a former chef at the Dorchester, while working for him in 1991 as a dishwasher. The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) decided not to prosecute Mr Williams. Ms Griffiths then sued Mr Williams for trespass against the person, and was awarded £50,000 damages.

> A crime is simply anything which the State decides is criminal

Last year, according to a survey of the BRC, the cost of customer thefts was £653 million. Civil recovery legislation exists in 49 states in the United States. The main purpose of the consortium's proposal is not to replace prosecutions with civil actions, but to establish a fast and inexpensive way of gaining compensation. A report for the BRC by Professor Joshua Banfield observes that a civil case may be a more certain way of obtaining recompense "because a criminal case may be discontinued by the Crown Prosecution Service, or the individual may simply be cautioned by the police".

For such shoplifting cases, it can be argued, the nominal status of the court is perhaps relatively unimportant, whereas for matters like homicide, rape and serious assault, the mission of the State to put a public seal of disapproval and shame on culprits cannot be achieved in the civil process.

The use of the civil courts for criminal matters is problematic in two ways. First, the burden of proof is lower in civil courts than in criminal courts, so that just because conduct is certified by the civil system as a civil wrong does not mean that a crime has been committed. For a conviction, a case in the criminal courts must be proven beyond a reasonable doubt, whereas, in the civil courts a plaintiff can win "on the balance of probabilities". After the Court of Appeal had found against him, Mr Williams said: "I still maintain that I am not guilty of rape. God help anyone who is accused of rape in a civil court."

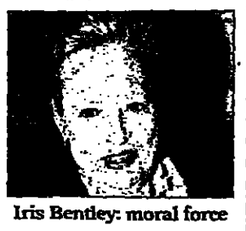
In the O.J. Simpson case, the criminal trial last year failed to find him guilty beyond reasonable doubt, whereas the civil jury last week found him liable for the homicides on "a preponderance of the evidence".

The second problem is the level of failure in the criminal justice system that such civil actions reflect. The civil process is a notoriously protracted experience — the trial of the man alleged to have murdered Joan Francisco may take two years to come to court. The process is also an increasingly expensive and risk-laden business, so the fact that an apparently growing number of crime victims are disposed to fight their cases in such a system is a token of grave dissatisfaction with the ordinary prosecution process.

This emerging crisis is also evident in the rise in private prosecutions and vigilante justice. The demand for court condemnation of wrongdoers from victims with a sense of unrequited justice is potentially large: more than 150,000 cases were discontinued by the CPS during 1995-96.

● *Dr Slapper is principal lecturer in law, Staffordshire University.*

A woman who refused to accept injustice



Iris Bentley: moral force

A practising barrister has all sorts of clients, some delightful, many forgettable, and a few impossible. Occasionally, counsel meets an exceptional individual for whom it is a privilege to act. Iris Bentley, who died three weeks ago, was in that class.

In December 1952, Iris's brother, Derek, was convicted by a jury of the murder of PC Sidney Miles. Derek Bentley's accomplice, Christopher Craig, fired the fatal shot, but police officers gave evidence that Bentley had shouted "Let him have it, Chris". Bentley was hanged on January 28, 1953. Iris devoted the next 44 years to campaigning for official recognition that a gross miscarriage of justice had occurred.

In 1993, I represented Iris in the Divisional Court. She was applying for judicial review of a decision by the then Home Secretary, Kenneth Clarke, not to grant her brother a posthumous free pardon. Giving judgment, Lord Justice Watkins (with whom Lord Justice Neill and Mr Justice Tuckey agreed) explained that "even by the standards of 1953" the decision not to reprieve Bentley from execution was "clearly wrong".

Bentley was aged 19. Craig was only 16 and so could not be hanged. The jury made a recommendation for mercy, with which the senior civil servants at the Home Office agreed, especially as Bentley's mental state was "just above the level of a feeble-minded person". But, astonishingly, the trial judge, Lord Goddard (the Lord Chief Justice) wrote to the Secretary of State, Sir David Maxwell Fyfe, that he "could find no mitigating circumstances".

COUNSEL

DAVID PANNICK QC

In July 1993, the Divisional Court concluded that proper consideration had not been given to the grant of a posthumous pardon so as to recognise what the court described as "the now generally accepted view that this young man should have been reprieved". The court told the Home Secretary that "it should be possible to devise some formula which would amount to a clear acknowledgement that an injustice was done". Three weeks later, the new Secretary of State, Michael Howard, announced that he was recommending the grant of a posthumous pardon in relation to the sentence of death.

Although pleased that she had secured this limited recognition of the injustice, Iris continued to campaign (with the assistance of her solicitors, B.M. Birnberg & Co) to establish that her brother had been wrongly convicted of murder.

Last October, she supplied the Home Office with a powerful submission asking that the case be referred back to the Court of Appeal. She described the grossly unfair conduct of Lord Goddard. In summing-up, he told the jury that it was "almost inconceivable" that Bentley did not know that Craig had a gun, and that the jury should ask itself whether to disbelieve police officers "who on that night showed a devotion to duty for which they are entitled to the thanks of the community". He made no proper reference to the burden and standard of proof. He did not correctly direct the jury on the law of joint enterprise.

The Crown relied at trial on a statement which Bentley was alleged to have made to the police suggesting that he knew that Craig had a gun. Therefore, said the Crown, Bentley must have foreseen that Craig might use it. But (as the new submission explains) extreme caution was required in relation to a statement by a youth on the borderline of being educationally subnormal.

In any event, new evidence (in the form of a linguistic analysis) establishes that the statement was not spontaneously made by Bentley, as the police officers testified. If they were untruthful about that, then the credibility of the rest of their evidence is undermined. Moreover, there were substantial discrepancies in the evidence of the police.

It may be said that the legal system should not devote resources to considering old cases. The answer is that the Bentley case (like the Hanratty case, which is also under review by the Home Office) is an important part of the modern history of criminal justice. Careful analysis will teach us valuable lessons and give some comfort to the relatives of those wrongly executed. If crimes committed more than 50 years ago can be the subject of a prosecution under the War Crimes Act, the legal system ought not to grant itself a limitation period for rectifying the wrongs for which it is responsible.

Iris Bentley radiated moral force. Her integrity and sheer determination won the admiration and support of all those she met. Eventually, through the Home Office or through the new Criminal Cases Review Commission, the case of Derek Bentley will be referred back to the Court of Appeal and the conviction quashed. The final tragedy is that the legal system was unable to acknowledge its errors before Iris Bentley's death.

● *The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.*

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

OUTS

Safety drive

THE Court Service, with the full backing of the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Bingham of Cornhill, has declared war on the clumsy barristers' clerks who have been causing "extensive damage" to the Royal Courts of Justice through their reckless driving of the trolleys they use to ferry documents. The doors and steps of the great building have been suffering particularly badly at the hands of the clerks. Now chambers whose clerks are spotted causing "wilful damage" to the courts will be blacklisted — and clerks will be encouraged to go backwards through doors with their trolleys, which must be of the "three-wheel stair-climber" variety.

Home visit

THE Master of the Rolls, Lord Woolf, popped down to Leicester Square last Friday to open the new offices of the Central London Law Centre, a specialist in housing, immigration and employment law, which has moved from cramped quarters above a Chinese restaurant. The centre is in dire need of additional funding, but so far only the law firms Titmuss Sainer Dechert and Clifford Chance have offered to help.

A fare cop

THE Magistrate, journal of the Magistrates' Association, has launched a series of articles on the lives of magistrates outside court which promises to make interesting reading. The first to be featured is a Wimbledon taxi driver, Dennis Potter, who tells of the time when one of his passengers boasted he was a burglar — and asked his cabbie whether he, too, ever broke into houses.

Aids survey

FIRST findings of a survey into the way different European legal systems are treating people with Aids and HIV has found that 40 per cent of legal aid firms have advised or represented sufferers. The survey of 10,000 firms is part of a Europe-wide study being co-ordinated by Professor Avrom Sheer, of the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies.

Speak up

WOULD-BE magistrates should be obliged to declare membership of the Freemasonry, the Magistrates' Association has recommended. The association, which represents 30,000 JPs in England and Wales, has told the Home Affairs Committee of MPs inquiring into Freemasonry that if JPs become Masons after joining the Bench, they should inform their local advisory committees.

High time

WHO said retired lawyers were spent forces? Barry Chedlow, QC, recently wrote to a wellwisher: "I naturally miss the life having spent so long in it. But I am just finishing a German degree at Birkbeck, we have just bought a house in France and I have just qualified as a pilot on four-seat helicopters. I shall keep active."

SCRIVENOR

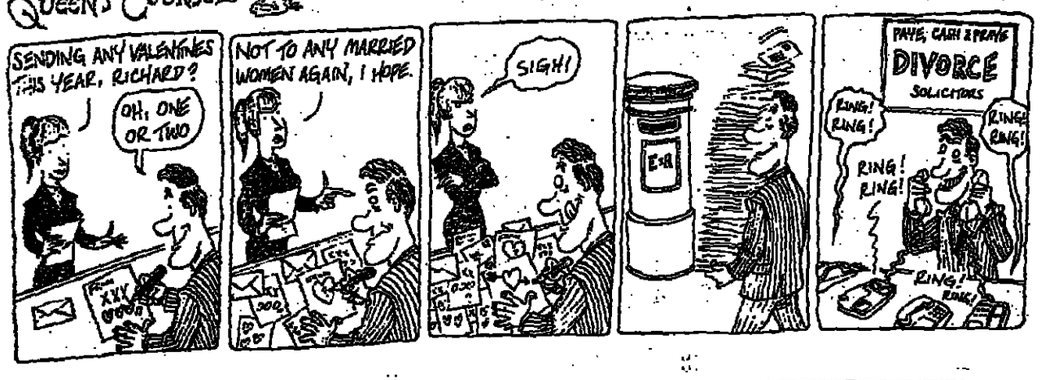
The keys of justice

Kim Walker

A PRACTICE formed by Mervyn Rundle and Kim Walker four years ago in Exeter without office equipment or knowledge of technology has won the 1997 IT Award of the Society for Computers and the Law.

The firm, which uses computers to operate without secretarial or administrative staff, cutting costs by an estimated two thirds, was presented with a winner's plaque by Cherie Booth, QC, the Labour leader's wife, at the Law Society.

STEUART & FRANCIS



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EMPLOYMENT, PENSIONS & BENEFITS DEPARTMENT

Freshfields' Employment, Pensions & Benefits Department operates as an integrated and close-knit team, advising a wide range of clients on all aspects of employment, pensions and share schemes, both in the UK and internationally.

Our department, already substantial, is still expanding to meet the demands of existing and new clients. We are seeking lawyers at all levels of qualification in all three practice areas and we have a particular interest in lawyers with 2 to 4 years' post-qualification experience:

SHARE SCHEME LAWYERS

We are looking for lawyers who have already established a good understanding of share schemes and senior executives' benefits arrangements. Candidates must be committed to developing their professional expertise in one of the leading practices in this area.

EMPLOYMENT LAWYERS

We want to recruit lawyers wishing to develop their existing interest and experience in a challenging environment. The role would involve a wide range of contentious and non-contentious employment work for many leading UK and European companies.

You will be joining a strong and very dynamic department within a progressive and ambitious firm. You will need both the academic qualifications and relevant professional skills to make your own contribution in this environment. Rewards and prospects are excellent.

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Please write in the first instance to Jonathon Hill at Freshfields, 65 Fleet Street, London EC4Y 1HS, enclosing your curriculum vitae and an outline of your experience.

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Taking Risks

The 'feelgood factor' is much in evidence these days in the legal job market. Not only are lawyers *moving around more*, they are willing to take the sort of risks which they shunned even six months ago. The high-profile moves to US law firms are a good example. Everyone knows that US firms are riskier places to work than the typical English firm; that employees are paid better but are also expected to perform better, and that a disappointing performance can mean an instant exit. Nevertheless, candidates are *saying to us that they are willing* to take the risk. They feel confident about prospects for expansion and they want to take the opportunity to make a major career change.

Another example is a candidate who in the past was always extremely cautious (and with good reason: she was made redundant twice in the recession). Recently, she was offered a safe job with an insurance company, a job that would have appealed to her a year ago. Instead, she chose to join a small firm in Liverpool which she *optimistically expects will grow* rapidly and offer her partnership.

The willingness to take risks is *particularly evident among* partners with client followings. They no longer feel reticent about *claiming a following*, and once they have joined a new firm they find that the following – to their surprise and delight – actually does materialise. Unlike the ghost followings of a few years ago, client followings today can exceed expectations.

Michael Chambers

INDUSTRY

Sonya Rayner, Morwenna Lewis

Newly Qualified: Midlands
A rare opportunity has arisen for an NQ Solr to join a leading consumer goods co. The work is broad ranging, and will involve commercial contracts, IP, employment and consumer law. An excellent package is offered.

Property: London
Solr with up to 2 yrs' property expce to join leading co in leisure industry. Experience of general commercial law is also required. Ideal as first move into industry.

Engineering: South East
Opportunity for Solr or Barr with at least 3 yrs' pqe to *join industrial services co.* Background *in engineering* or construction industries is highly desirable. You will also have gen comm expce which must include contracts.

Commercial: South East
Solr with up to 2 yrs' commercial expce to join legal dept of major multinational company. Expce of IP is desirable and a good academic background is required.

Property Lawyer: South East
Solr or Barr with 2-4 yrs' pqe to join busy property co. You will assist with conveyancing matters and land acquisitions/development. Expce of planning law is desirable but not essential.

Intellectual Property: Central London
Excellent opportunity for Solr or Barr with 1-5 years' experience which must include IP/IT to join high profile international organisation. Must have good academic and technical background. Attractive salary.

PRIVATE PRACTICE

SOUTH: *Helen Mills, Alicen Shepherd*
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Partnership Positions
We have been assisting partners seeking a career move for over 20 years now and are regularly placing several partners each month.

Company/Commercial: Holborn
Upmarket small/medium-sized practice seeks 0-2 yr qual solicitor for broad private company caseload including some entertainment, sports and IT work.

Litigation Information Officers: City
We have instructions from a number of City firms for info officers in com lit and IP. You should have at least 2 yrs' high quality fee earning expce. Part-time possible.

Banking: City
Wide-ranging caseload with 2nd tier practice seeking 0-2 yr qual solr for work on EMU, transactions & new products, *restructurings & student loan portfolio work.*

Insurance Litigation: City
Well known, med-sized insurance firm seeks several 1-3 yr qualified litigation assistants to handle a lively mix of insurance, reinsurance and professional neg.

Commercial Information Officer: City
Top ten practice with expanding know-how department offers solr with general commercial law background regular working hours and part-time or full-time work.

IP Litigation: City
Large firm with corp and institutional client base seeks 2-6 yr qual IP litigator to handle trade mark, copyright, passing-off and patent work in a small, dedicated team.

Venture Capital: City
Leading venture capital practice acting for many of Europe's major funds and management teams offers 0-2 yr qual solr experience and training of highest quality.

Employment: Greater London
To strengthen its employment team, our client needs a solr with up to 18 mnths' expce in employment. Strong academic record and a love for teamwork important.

Pensions: Manchester
Excellent opportunity now offered by major firm to a senior pensions lawyer with at least 4 years' pqe. Experience in corporate finance work an advantage.

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Cayman Islands

3 - 5 years qualified **$165,000 salary**

Maples and Calder is the largest firm of attorneys-at-law in the Cayman Islands. With a multinational client base primarily comprised of leading banks, corporations, trust companies and financial institutions based across Europe, the United States, the Far East and the Cayman Islands, the firm's expertise encompasses all aspects of international business.

Due to continued expansion and increase in business there now exists a superb opportunity for a top class lawyer to join their highly motivated team in the Cayman Islands. The work will be challenging, with a demanding mix of international financial transactions - the financial rewards and long term career prospects are excellent and the Cayman Islands provides a very attractive environment.

The ideal candidate will have a first class academic background and at least 3 years post qualification experience with a leading City firm in any one or more of the fields of banking, securitisation, corporate finance, capital markets and mutual funds. Salary will be in the region of $165,000 and there is no personal taxation in the Cayman Islands.

For further information in complete confidence please contact Jane Foster at Laurence Simons International on **0171 831 3270** or write to her at the address below enclosing a full CV. Any direct or third party applications received by the firm will be forwarded to us.

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Craven House, 121 Kingsway, London WC2B 6PA Tel +44 (0)171 831 3270, Fax +44 (0)171 831 4429

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The firm's culture is non-hierarchical and supportive and sees its people as its most important resource. The work ethos is strong yet well balanced and this is consistent throughout the partnership. The firm's profitability derives from a focused approach to key practice areas and a low cost base. In short, there is no "dead wood".

The firm now seeks to make a senior appointment which will have the full backing of the partnership and which will be effectively supported from within the firm. Your profile:

- Ideally in your late 30's or early 40's
- Strong technical experience, covering a variety of aspects of civil litigation including personal injury
- Hands on management experience, together with commercial and financial acumen
- Strong communication skills

In addition to developing your area of expertise, you will be encouraged to play a full role in the management and direction of the firm. Salaried partnership will be offered immediately and the overall remuneration package is excellent.

For further information in complete confidence, please contact Peter Thompson on 0171 269 2239, or enclose your CV to Michael Page Legal, Page House, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH. Fax 0171 831 6662.

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NEW CHALLENGES

FSA — *To £52,000*
A recent survey confirmed London's position as one of the world's leading centres for fund management and thereby confirmed that this is a very good time to be an FSA lawyer with 1-4 years' pqe. This leading City firm can offer the right candidate from a good background some exciting work and excellent prospects. Ref: T34676

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS — *To £46,000*
This leading international firm has arguably the best employment practice in the City and offers a real future to an employee benefits lawyer with 1-3 years' pqe. You need experience of employee share and incentive schemes, Schedule E and national insurance. An unbeatable first move. Ref: T37247

ENTERTAINMENT — *To £45,000*
This smaller but very well-known City firm boasts an excellent client base and the opportunity for a music/entertainment lawyer with 1-4 years' pqe to build a real reputation in this area while making rapid progress towards partnership. You will ideally come from a firm with a good entertainment practice. Ref: T37265

EC/COMPETITION — *London and Brussels* — *To £48,000*
This top 10 firm is one of the most exciting places to be in the City right now. It has come out of the recession stronger than it went into it and is making its mark all over, none more so than in EC/competition work. A lawyer with 0-3 years' pqe could hardly do better. French or German skills would be ideal. Ref: T37036

CORPORATE TAX — *To £50,000*
This is a superb opportunity for a young corporate tax lawyer, 1-4 years qualified, to join this very well-known medium-sized commercial firm as number two in its corporate tax department. This guarantees you quality work and prospects that outstrip those available elsewhere. Ref: T37393

OIL AND GAS/ENERGY — *To £65,000*
If you want to work in oil and gas (mainly upstream work), there are few better places to join than this top 10 firm. Not only does it offer you the chance to build quality niche expertise, but it will also give you excellent corporate grounding. Work on some of the biggest projects around if you have 2-5 years' pqe. Ref: T36113

CONSTRUCTION — *To £55,000*
You can expect immediate and substantial responsibility if you join the construction department of this very well-known medium-sized City firm, which has a strong client base and reputation. All you need to get on here is 3-5 years' pqe in a broad range of contentious and non-contentious work. Ref: T29238

COMPANY/COMMERCIAL — *To £37,000*
Small is certainly beautiful for the company/commercial lawyer with 1-2 years' pqe who joins this well-known niche City firm. You can expect quality work, real responsibility, client contact and sensible hours, not to mention rapid promotion that will set you up very well for the future. An intelligent move. Ref: T36960

JUNIOR BANKING — *To £29,000*
If you want to work for a City firm that attracts the highest profile and most interesting jobs, as well as one that offers a full development and career plan, then this top 10 firm fits the bill perfectly. Newly qualified banking lawyers could hardly do better. Ref: T28327

COMMERCIAL IP — *To £45,000*
This highly-regarded medium-sized firm has a top IP department specialising in pharmaceutical, media and IT work. A lawyer with 2-3 years' pqe will find the work very varied and challenging, including patent, copyrights, trademark and corporate support. Need good drafting skills. Ref: T29002

BANKING — *To £Excellent*
The chance to join a major international investment bank as its first in-house lawyer does not come along too often for banking lawyers with 3-7 years' pqe, so snap it up when it does. You will be involved in a very wide range of work and will be rewarded handsomely. Ref: T36596

PRIVATE CLIENT — *To £58,000*
This quality medium-sized firm takes private client work seriously and has a department that is expected to stand on its own two feet. That goes for its lawyers as well. If you have 2-5 years' pqe and want to make a real career in private client, then this could well be the place. Genuine prospects. Ref: T29752

EMPLOYMENT — *To £42,000*
Join the employment department of this major international firm and enjoy huge responsibility and rapid promotion. A lawyer with 1-3 years' pqe needs contentious and non-contentious experience for work ranging from executive share schemes to large-scale redundancies, tribunals, contracts and dismissals. Ref: T29804

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY — *To £50,000*
Quality work and prospects are offered to a commercial property lawyer with 1-4 years' pqe by one of London's most progressive firms. You will be working for both landlords and tenants and, ideally, you will have experience of portfolio management. This firm expects you to take on responsibility. Ref: T35872

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Emma Cowell, Adrian Fox or Kate Sutcliffe (all qualified lawyers) on 0171-405 6062 (0171-627 3674 or 0171-266 1966 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax 0171-831 6394.

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Fee income in our corporate department grew by 38% in 1996. We are ranked by the Legal 500 as a leading, medium-sized, commercial, City firm highly rated for both our MBO and M&A work.

Corporate partners made up in 1996 included one that had less than 7 years' pqe and one who had just returned from maternity leave. We have a Head of Department aged 37.

Our growing success means we are looking for more corporate lawyers with 1-4 years' pqe. We can offer something different. An internal culture which both motivates and supports. A growing client base which produces a rapid turnover of high quality deals. With us, a variety of work is guaranteed, not a privilege. We will help you to build on your technical excellence and to be more innovative and creative in your approach. Naturally, we will pay you a top City salary.

Our sense of purpose is to be the best. If yours matches ours and you want to get on fast, we would like to meet you.

To find out more about Berwin Leighton and opportunities in the corporate department, please contact our retained consultants ***Stephen Rodney*** *or* ***Alison Jacobs*** *on* ***0171-405 6062*** *(0171-354 3079 0171-231 5699 evenings/weekends) or write to them at* ***Quarry Dougall Recruitment,*** *37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax 0171-831 6394.*

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Cosworth is recognised as one of the world's leading automotive engine designers and manufacturers.

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The ideal candidate will be a Solicitor or Barrister with at least 3PQE and the ability to apply sound commercial principles to all issues affecting the company. You will advise management at every level on, inter alia, property, insurance, intellectual property and litigation matters and will, therefore, possess strong communication skills, combined with maturity and confidence.

Lipson Lloyd-Jones is exclusively instructed to handle this assignment.

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For further information contact:
Jon Garrett, solicitor
Simon Lipson, solicitor

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Baker & McKenzie is a firm which takes the professional support of its lawyers seriously. It is seeking a lawyer with significant UK or international securities experience, working currently as a senior assistant or performing a know how role.

You will be expected to assist in providing know how support to our securities lawyers, particularly in the international securities area.

The work will include drafting precedents and preparing other know how materials. The post is envisaged to be full time, but excellent candidates who wish to work part time will also be considered.

In addition to allowing you the benefit of controlling your working hours, the firm recognises the importance of such a position with a remuneration package and status to match that of fee earning assistants.

KELLYFIELD CONSULTING

For further information please contact our advising consultants, ***Hugh Kelly*** *or* ***Mark Field*** *at Kellyfield Consulting on 0171 588 7878 (0171 226 9398 evenings/weekends) or, send your CV to Kellyfield Consulting, Moor House, 119 London Wall, London EC2Y 5ET (Fax: 0171 588 7020). You may also send your CV to Joanna Darby, Baker & McKenzie, 100 New Bridge Street, London EC4V 6JA (Tel: 0171 919 1000; Fax: 0171 919 1999).*

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Salomon Brothers

TRANSACTION LAWYER

London 5-7 years' pqe £Outstanding + benefits

Salomon Brothers is one of the world's leading global integrated securities houses. Our clients include governments, government agencies, large and mid-sized corporations, institutional investors and financial institutions.

We are now seeking to recruit a high calibre capital markets lawyer to join the Transaction Structuring Group (TSG). The TSG deals with debt capital markets instruments; equity derivative products; emerging markets offerings and fixed income derivative products. In order to be considered you will be:-

- *5-7 years' post qualified*
- *From a leading UK/US law firm or alternatively from a first rate US/European Investment Banking Firm*
- *Technically outstanding*
- *Commercial and robust.*

In addition, the successful candidate will be expected to give advice on a range of issues including M&A work, advisory assignments, engagement letters and confidentiality agreements.

This position provides an opportunity to undertake a high profile, rewarding role with a market leader. We offer an outstanding working environment, excellent remuneration and package and an exceptional career opportunity.

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For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Stephen Rodney or Seamus Hoar our retained consultants on 0171-405 6062 (0171-403 5727 evening/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Dougall Banking & Finance, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394. This assignment is being handled on an exclusive basis by Quarry Dougall Banking & Finance. All direct applications will be forwarded to Quarry Dougall.

Assistant Business Affairs Executive

Channel 4 Television is looking for an astute and methodical negotiator to join our Business Affairs department for 6 months, while the current negotiator is on maternity leave. You will negotiate and document Channel 4's deals with Independent Producers on commissioned programmes, principally schools programmes. The role is both demanding and enjoyable.

To succeed, you will need to be diligent and have good organisational skills and an eye for detail. Above all, you will need to negotiate commercially and effectively. You do not necessarily need to be legally qualified but a sound grounding in contract and copyright law and experience of working with media contracts would be preferable.

If you are interested in applying, please send your CV with a covering letter, including salary details, to the Personnel Department, 124 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2TX. Please quote reference AH/06.

Closing date for applications: 21 February 1997.

Interviews will take place on Thursday 27 February 1997.

Channel 4 is an equal opportunities employer and applications from people from an ethnic minority background are particularly welcomed.

CHANNEL FOUR TELEVISION

Company Secretary

Northern Home Counties

We are a well established, successful and acquisitive plc with worldwide sales of over £400M. We have subsidiaries and associate companies in the UK, Holland, Germany, Belgium, the Far and Near East.

Responsible to the Group Chief Executive, you will be involved in all aspects of public company and corporate administration, including secretarial matters relating to the main boards and Stock Exchange compliance.

You will have legal advisory responsibility, particularly relating to the drafting and vetting of contracts and the provision of advice to subsidiary companies. In addition you will be responsible for group property and insurance matters.

You must be a qualified ACIS with a solid legal background, or a solicitor/barrister with some company secretarial/administration experience. Confidence, attention to detail, plus tact and diplomacy will be amongst the personal qualities essential for this broad multi-disciplinary role.

We are offering a remuneration package that includes a competitive salary and bonus, fully expensed company car, BUPA, pension scheme and life assurance.

To apply, please write with full CV and salary details to: Barkers Human Resources, Berwick House, 35 Livery Street, Birmingham B3 2PB. Please quote reference M865.

Your CV will be sent to this client only. Please indicate any company to which your details should not be sent.

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Sedgwick

Insurance Litigator

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An exceptional opportunity has now arisen within the Legal Department's litigation team at the Group's City head office. Suitable candidates will have the following credentials.

- between 1 and 2 years' post-qualified experience either in private practice or in-house
- a litigation background which has involved exposure to at least one area of insurance work
- intellectual capability - which will include the ability to think laterally as well as logically
- commercial awareness and an aptitude for applying legal techniques to practical problem-solving
- a confident yet approachable personality and the communication skills for dealing with different types of people

This appointment represents a rare chance for a litigator to work not only in-house but for a blue-chip organisation and within a well-managed and stable department. The role will be genuinely varied and interesting, and command a competitive salary and benefits package.

This assignment is being handled exclusively by Reuter Simkin, Legal Recruitment Consultants. To discuss the opportunity in complete confidence please telephone Philip Boynton LLM, quoting reference 35395. Alternatively, send your CV to him at the address below.

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

LEGAL ADVISER – BASS BREWERS

Midlands

CARLING CAFFREY'S HOOCH

As part of the strategic development of the legal function within the Bass Group a need has been identified for a lawyer to manage the legal affairs of the Bass Brewers Division.

As the UK's pre-eminent brewer and brand owner with an impressive range of national and regional brands including Carling, Tennents, Caffrey's and Hoopers Hooch, Bass Brewers owns and operates eight UK breweries, has increasing interests overseas and continues to develop new products and areas of growth potential.

The Company seeks a highly motivated commercial lawyer with about 5 years' pqe to provide legal support and advice to management and staff in connection with both strategic decisions and day-to-day issues. Work will be demanding, but varied and stimulating including business acquisitions, drafting and negotiating various contracts, intellectual property, EC and regulatory affairs. A flexible hands-on approach is required together with strong interpersonal skills and business awareness. The job will require liaison with Group Legal Department in London and with lawyers in similar positions in other Divisions of Bass.

This position represents a unique opportunity for a bright and ambitious lawyer to become an integral part of a successful business in a dynamic and highly competitive market. In return there will be individual responsibility, rewarding long term career development and an excellent remuneration package.

This assignment is being handled exclusively by Reuter Simkin. All direct or third party applications will be referred to Reuter Simkin. To discuss this opportunity in complete confidence, please telephone Gill Newman BA (Hons) quoting reference 33614. Alternatively, send your CV to her at the address below. Interviews will be conducted in London and Birmingham.

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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We wish to add to our existing team and are looking to recruit Solicitors and/or Legal Executives with relevant experience in Defendant Insurance Litigation.

Applications in writing with CV to Claire McKinney, 21 Bennetts Hill, Birmingham, B2 5QP : DX 13043

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW CAYMAN ISLANDS

The firm of Ritch & Conolly in the Cayman Islands invites applications for an Attorney-at-Law with not less than five years experience in civil litigation. The successful applicant will be a barrister or solicitor, preferably with experience in general civil/commercial and/or trusts litigation.

Full details of salary package and fringe benefits which will include pension and medical insurance are available upon request.

Please reply in writing with full curriculum vitae by telefax or by post to be received by 28th February 1997 to:-

Ritch & Conolly
P.O. Box 1994
Grand Cayman
Cayman Islands
British West Indies
Attn: David Ritch, Esq.
Telephone: (345) 949-7366
Telefax (345) 949-8652

Interviews will be conducted in London in March 1997.

FOX KIDS network

Fox Kids Networks - Europe

Director of Business and Legal Affairs

London

Fox Kids Networks - Europe is a newly formed subsidiary of Fox Kids Worldwide, owner of Fox Children's Network (USA), the leading kids network in America, and one of the largest producers of kids programming in the world. The company is currently in the process of launching branded television channels targeting kids throughout Europe and is expecting significant growth. A management team based in London is being established to support this expansion.

Fox Kids Networks - Europe, is now looking for an experienced, self starter and motivated lawyer to join a young and entrepreneurial group at the European headquarters in a rapidly expanding start-up environment. Responsibilities will include review, negotiations and documentation of all corporate transactions in the areas of:

- Broadcast, direct-to-home and cable distribution
- Satellite and transmission facilities
- Program licensing and copyrights
- UK and EC regulations
- Joint ventures and corporate acquisitions

The successful candidate will have 4-6 years of relevant experience in the television industry with strong academic and commercial background. Experience in international transactions and knowledge of languages would be a distinct advantage, but not a prerequisite.

Please write in confidence, enclosing c.v. with current salary details, to Zoe Ferguson at the following address:

Fox Kids Networks - Europe
1 Northumberland Avenue
Trafalgar Square
London WC2N 5BW
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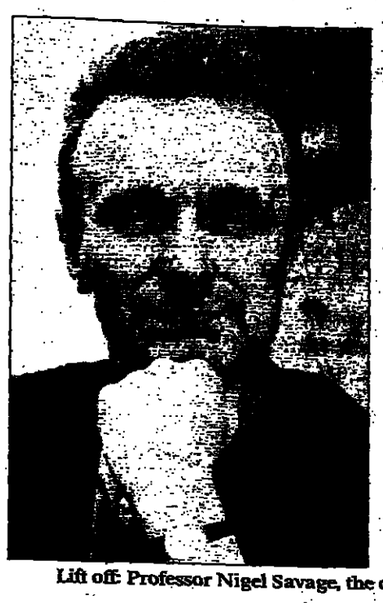
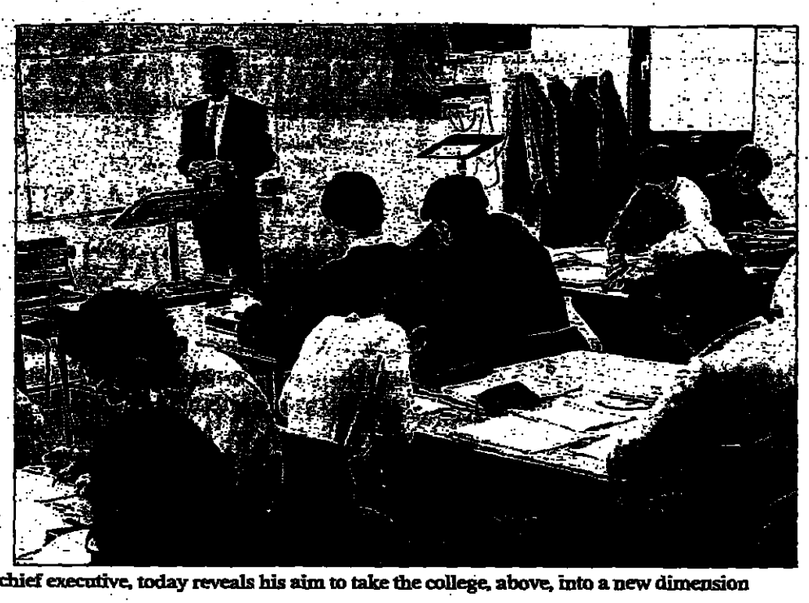
The College of Law is poised to take a broader role, says **Edward Fennell**





Lift off: Professor Nigel Savage, the chief executive, today reveals his aim to take the college, above, into a new dimension

Services to last a lifetime

The College of Law has achieved lift-off. The college has for years had a solid reputation for ferrying graduates to a safe landing at the start of their professional training. But that is no longer enough. The tougher challenges lie further down the line in terms of career development and business management.

Professor Nigel Savage, the college's chief executive, today reveals his aim to take the college into a new dimension by providing a range of services and qualifications to last a lifetime.

"We have a vast amount of know-how, which is only being partially tapped," Professor Savage says. "Our ultimate vision is to create a university for the legal profession which serves individuals and firms alike."

It is an ambitious programme, but will not surprise observers of the legal education scene. Professor Savage has already taken Nottingham Law School from comparative obscurity to a position commanding the highest respect from top lawyers in London.

Always critical of the Establishment, he was appointed last year to the top job in legal education in England and Wales. He was expected to give fresh energy and direction to an institution which was widely admired, but which also needed to adapt quickly to satisfy a profession that has become more complex and diverse during the past decade.

But first, Professor Savage has secured the quality of his core provision by spending several million pounds on redesigning the Legal Practice Course so that it will be much better geared to meet the tough demands made of it by employers. A further substantial sum will be spent shortly on upgrading the college's computer system.

But the future of the college is also mapped out by entering new territories. The most far-reaching commitment is to assume the leadership role in the development of the profession as a whole. Professor Savage says: "We must assist the profession to face head-on the competitive, technological, and public policy changes that face us."

Professor Savage links leadership with partnership and diversity as the watchwords for the future. The changes to the profession have led to increased specialisation, and also a marked alteration in the environment in which lawyers operate, both in the high street and the City. While the Law Society has some role in responding to this, the key lies in building up the skill base of the profession.

One gap that Professor Savage plans to plug is in research and development. While individual firms have invested massively in practically based R&D, there have been few complementary developments in academia. Now, in the same way that university research departments in science and technology have done for years, the college aims to develop partnerships with firms and universities in order to undertake leading-edge work on new approaches to legal problems.

> Geared to meet the tough demands made by employers

New deals with law firms will also be struck over continuous professional development. The college already operates the strikingly successful Legal Network Television, but much more is envisaged. Professor Savage wants to provide a comprehensive, cradle-to-grave service so that at each stage of a lawyer's — or paralegal's — career, courses are available in legal and management fields.

Likely to be of most immediate impact is a series of diplomas for newly qualified lawyers, enabling them to gain awards in specialist subjects such as corporate finance, property, and criminal litigation.

Beyond that, there will be the chance to provide training for individual firms. As Professor Savage points out, the college is very good at designing courses. It has moved away from the old stand-up lecture, emphasising instead the use of case studies and the customisation of education and training to meet specific objectives.

In the longer term, Professor Savage is also conscious that the law is a tool which a growing number of people wish to use. Already he sees the creation of an advice industry around family law in which lawyers no longer have a monopoly. But he perceives this as being a genuine opportunity, not a threat. He argues that if lawyers respond constructively, they can form the core of new multi-discipline services. Rather than being sidelined, lawyers can remain centrally placed. The job of the College of Law in this situation would be to meet the educational needs of all the professions involved.

If all these plans come to fruition, then more people in more places than ever before are going to benefit from the College of Law. The Establishment is biting back.

Stepping in to defend the public interest

The Attorney-General is in the spotlight again, reports **James Morton**

When Sir Nicholas Lyell, QC, the Attorney-General, decided recently to discontinue the prosecution in the first British war crimes trial, he was exercising his inalienable right not to subject a case to review by the courts.

"I had to make a public interest decision — to decide whether to grant a *nolle prosequi*." Sir Nicholas says. "That wasn't a difficult one. The jury had heard for over a week whether he [Szymon Serafinowicz] was medically fit and had come to the conclusion he was not. There is an option in the case of a very dangerous person to prove the facts, and seek a hospital order. This was not required in this case. There was no suggestion at all he represented a current danger to the public. I therefore issued a *nolle prosequi*."

In fact, over the past five years, the Attorney-General has received between one and two dozen applications annually to issue a *nolle prosequi*, usually on the ground of very serious ill-health. "In a larger way the Serafinowicz case was under consideration before we prosecuted him at all; consent was required under the War Crimes Act. Before I granted the consent to prosecute I asked his lawyers about his fitness to be tried and they didn't make any representations at that stage. When it came to the trial, if all the medical evidence had been one way I could have granted the *nolle* but there was a sharp difference of medical opinion."

There are five similar cases being considered on the evidence; it is uncertain whether any will reach a trial. Decisions are some way off. "Obviously the state of health will be considered. The oldest is now aged 79. If representations are made I shall listen very carefully and consider such things as medical certificates."

The Attorney-General is regularly in the firing line over decisions he takes in his public interest role. As part of his office he also leads in some of the most important cases of the day. "I have appeared in Luxembourg and Strasbourg. For example, I led throughout in the *Factortame* — the Spanish fisheries — case, but the frequency is less than it was a couple of generations ago."

Sir Nicholas: independent

Hastings: report awaited

He was also involved in the recent case in which Greenwich council sought an injunction against a man who was alleged to have threatened to "do a Dunblane" on his release from prison.

Another of his functions in the public interest is his contempt jurisdiction. "It focuses on media cases with reference to the Contempt of Court Act 1981. Contempt occurs in proceedings when anything is published which gives rise to a substantial risk of prejudice to the administration of justice. In the Belmarsh case [in which the trial judge, after an article in the *Evening Standard* in London, stopped proceedings resulting from an alleged attempted prison escape], I shall have to consider whether there was a substantial risk. The practice is to receive a report from the trial judge and to give the Editor [in this case Max Hastings] the opportunity to make representations. I then take advice from specialist counsel. At the present time I am awaiting the report from the judge."

A whole swath of the Attorney-General's work is in the public interest domain. "I superintend the Director of Public Prosections, the Serious Fraud Office and the Director of Public Prosecutions in Northern Ireland. In that whole function I am acting as Her Majesty's Attorney-General, not as a member of the Government. I am appointed and can be sacked by the Prime Minister but in my public interest functions I can't be told what to do.

"My whole relationship with the Director of Public Prosecutions is of independence. I am answerable to Parliament and expected to be scrupulous in avoiding any political party taint to the exercise of my duties."

He also makes applications to the Court of Appeal where the sentencing appears to have been unduly lenient. "Every case is looked at by my team and then my myself or the Solicitor-General, often both of us.

"I also take advice from Treasury counsel at the Old Bailey or a member of a small panel of experienced criminal lawyers. The fact that 87 per cent of applications have resulted in a sentence increase has had an effect in restoring public confidence."

Would he then like to see his powers extended as Labour proposes, so that he could refer every case in which a defendant appeared before the Crown Court? "It would swamp the system; if a large number were referred it would be impractical both for this office and the court.

"Judges are now very aware what is the proper range within which they should sentence. They are thinking about it more carefully than ten years ago."

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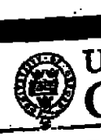

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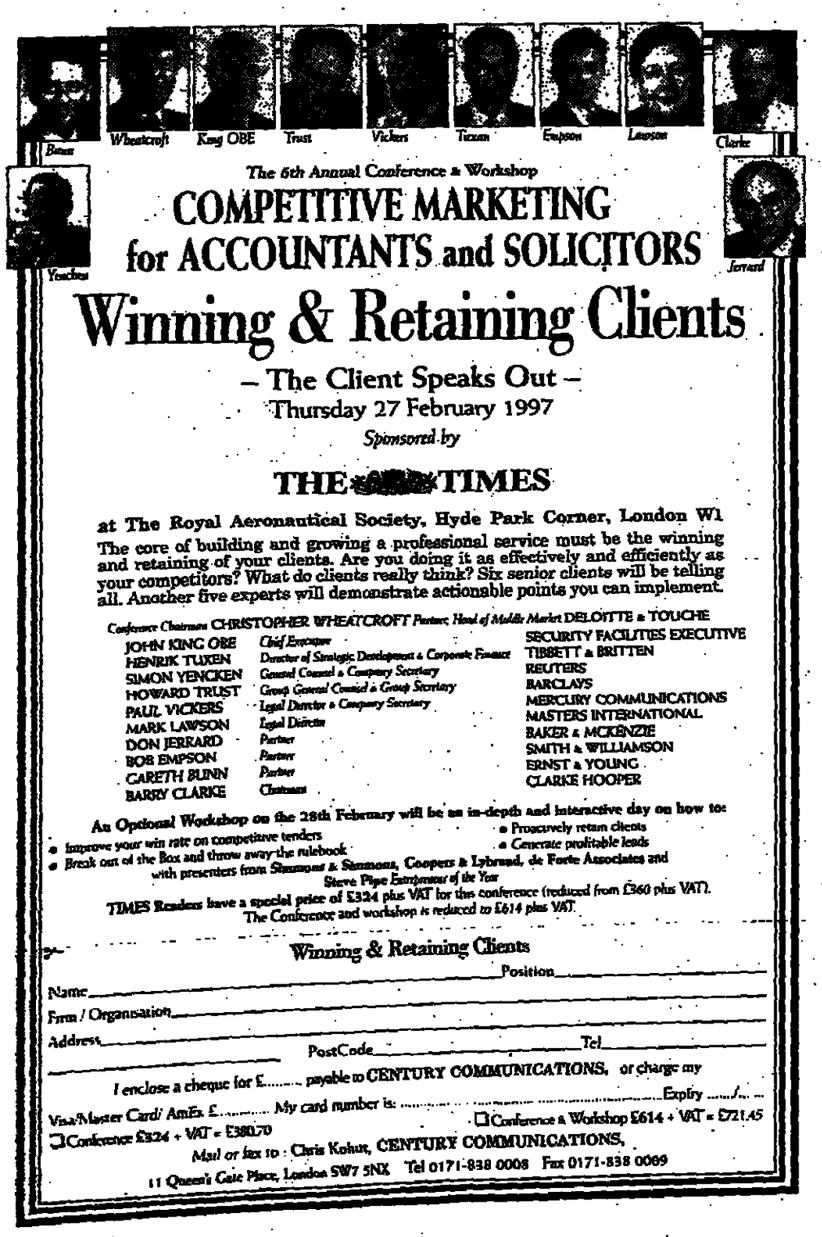

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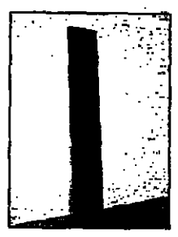
■ VISUAL ART 1

Touched by the visionary: the Tate in Liverpool mounts a Paula Rego retrospective



■ VISUAL ART 2

Souvenirs from the future: John McCracken's new show hints at the shape of things to come

THE TIMES ARTS

■ MUSIC

At the Barbican Sir Colin Davis's Brahms cycle hits a lethargic patch in the Second Symphony

■ CD CHOICE

Building a Library assesses the merits of Ashkenazy and others in Borodin's Second

VISUAL ART: **Richard Cork** reports on the long, strange progress of Paula Rego; plus other shows

Postcards from Wonderland

Unlike so many artists who make youthful reputations with phenomenal speed and then fail to fulfil their promise, Paula Rego had a surprisingly slow start. Although her output was substantial after she left the Slade School of Art in 1956, a quarter of a century passed before Rego became widely known in Britain.

Today, at the age of 62, she is one of our most admired and popular painters. But why did this recognition take so long? Did Rego spend too much time in her native Portugal, enabling England to ignore the work she produced? Or did her gender prove an obstacle to early success over here?

An impressive new retrospective at the Tate Gallery Liverpool provides an excellent chance to consider the evidence. For the first time in this country, a comprehensive selection of Rego's work from 1959 to 1995 has been assembled. Her Slade period and its immediate aftermath is largely avoided, but one fascinating 1953 sketchbook proves that Rego's vision was already being defined in embryonic form.

> ❛Dread is turned into a magical realm❜

Swiftly drawn figures swarm through its pages. The freedom and assurance of Rego's loose, summary handling bear the hallmarks of a born draughtswoman. Her teachers at the Slade would scarcely have approved of these brusque, impetuous studies. But her audacity was prophetic, and Rego already displays a preoccupation with the idea of human beings taking on animal identities. One dishevelled man crouches on all fours like a monkey, while elsewhere a woman laps at a bowl of milk with canine eagerness.

If Rego had pursued the implications of these quirky, unfettered drawings at once, she would have developed her mature style far sooner. But the lure of collage, and the growing influence of Surrealism, led her in a different direction. The hybrid creatures who slouch, huddle, gorge and urinate in that early sketchbook grow wilder and more difficult to identify. Rego adds to the confusion by cutting them up, and applying them to her picture-surface in an anarchic manner, exploring a language where ambiguity thrives to an often baffling degree.

A strain of political protest enters her work as well. Salazar maintained his Fascist rule in Portugal until 1974, and several pictures hit out at his oppressive dictatorship through parable. She called one especially gruesome painting *Salazar Vomiting the Homeland*, and her art often looked like the pictorial equivalent of an emetic.

Even at the height of her political wrath, though, Rego never lost contact with the impulses outlined in that student sketchbook. The animals stretching in a black, frieze-like strip across *Stray Dogs (The Dogs of Barcelona)* may be highly contorted, but they still have an underlying kinship with the uninhibited figures she drew in 1953. And as her polemical rage abated during the post-Salazar period, so Rego developed a more personal world with the help of characters from a children's toy theatre. She soon made them her own, abandoning collage to paint these gesticulating performers on large sheets of paper.

Using acrylic with fluency and verve, she unleashed a witty yet nightmarish cast of people, animals, phantoms and vegetables onto her shallow stages. Acting out their obsessions against backdrops of freely brushed colour, they mirror Rego's determination to dramatise emotions at their most forceful. Weapons are often brandished, whether by a rabbit leering at a tearful cabbage or by a bogeyman threatening small bears. Retribution is a constant theme, most alarmingly in a venomous image where a scissor-wielding wife slices off a red monkey's tail. Not all the pictures are fuelled by physical threats: one of them shows a rabbit telling her aghast parents that she is pregnant. But the possibility of danger never seems very far away.

At this stage, in the early 1980s, Rego staked everything on a bold, highly simplified way of working. The passions in these pictures are all of a piece with their headlong execution. And she continued in the same impulsive manner when painting an equally macabre 1986 series, where girls cradle dogs like babies, feed them, hold conversations and even shave them with alarming cut-throat razors.

Affection or assault? *The Family* (1988) by Paula Rego "explores physical helplessness with mesmeric authority"

Only a year later, however, Rego began to develop a more measured style. Working now on a far grander scale, she gave her dramatis personae a greater weight and clarity. In an outstanding picture called *Snare*, a girl continues to focus her attention on a prostrate dog whose paws she clasps, half loving and half predatory. But the improvisatory panache of the previous pictures has been replaced by precise contours and an almost sculptural feeling for volume.

This new emphasis reaches its zenith in 1988, the year when her husband, Victor Willing, died after a long, debilitating illness. Physical helplessness is explored with mesmeric authority in *The Family*, where two girls grapple with a man in a bedroom. Although they might be helping him to undress, they also seem to imprison him. Cruelty motivates them as much as sensual desire, and he submits to their attentions like a mannequin incapable of resistance. A girl by the window, caught in sunlight, smiles and clasps her hands in a semblance of prayer. She appears to preside over the scene.

Her potent presence shows how much of a role childhood imagination plays in Rego's work. Growing up as a solitary girl in Portugal, she was immensely stimulated by the stories her female relatives recounted with relish. Their readiness to mix enchantment with ferocity ignited her own prodigious fantasies, and paintings such as *The Family* continue to feed off their inspiration with haunting conviction. Willing's death surely contributed to the prevailing aura of melancholy and loss: one superb painting called *Departure* shows a maid combing the hair of a neatly dressed young man, overshadowed by an implacable cliff-face as he sits near his coffin-shaped trunk. But the overall mood is serene rather than gloomy. Rego's private dread has been transmuted into a magical realm, where bereavement is offset by a dream-like feeling of wonder.

These large paintings of the late 1980s, where majestic elaboration coexists with lucid simplicity, remain her most spellbinding achievement to date. They were bound to seal her reputation in the country that produced *Alice in Wonderland*, a book in which similar emotional extremes are brought into head-on conflict and laced with absurdity. If Portugal had warmed more to her earlier, more convoluted and political work, Britain hailed her only after she moved towards a wholeheartedly committed to the figurative tradition.

In the early 1990s Rego sometimes becomes too studied and literal, burying her innate spontaneity with an excess of dogged detail. By 1994, though, the *Dog Woman* series proved that she had regained her ability to unlock a multilayered range of feelings, at once erotic and disturbingly humiliated. They go back at least as far as the canine figures in her 1953 sketchbook, suggesting that Rego still knows how to draw formidable nourishment from the bizarre stories she imbibed during her girlhood.

● *Paula Rego is at the Tate Gallery Liverpool (0151-709 3223) until April 13*

...AND THE GALLERIES

☐ **John McCracken's** bright lacquered sculptures are like souvenirs of the future, combining the strange agelessness of high Modernism with an almost self-prophesying sense of prediction. This show includes work from all stages of a long career; the works stand free, sit on simple plinths, are fixed to the wall or simply lean against it. McCracken's quiet minimalism looks positively talkative compared to the work of many younger sculptors and their use of off-balanced shape and pearlised shiny surfaces to invent their own science fiction. It is possible to see how the very slightest shift away from absolute purity can let in a flood of reference, from the cherry-red leaning plank to the towering central black column reminiscent of the black monolith in the film *2001*.
Lisson Gallery, 52-54 Bell Street and 67 Lisson Street, NW1 (0171-724 2739) until Feb 22

☐ **Milos Manetas** approaches the age-old question of painting and subject-matter as if he were a stranger. Having worked as an artist "with computers" for a number of years, he then made a perhaps surprising decision to paint pictures of them. At the end of the gallery an open laptop personal computer has been delicately painted with light shadow set against an olive-green ground. A familiar company logo emerges from a lightly blurred shimmery haze. Downstairs in the gallery Manetas rather spoils it all by including a real open laptop on a plinth, showing a series of photographs of gallery people.
Lotta Hammer, 51 Cleveland Street, W1 (0171-636 2221). until Feb 15

☐ THE very minimalist painter, **Alan Charlton**, has installed a pretty perfect show out of a multiple commissioned by Riding House Editions. Eleven "elements" or paintings, thin shallow strips of steel wrapped or covered in fine, differently shaded grey painted canvases, have been placed at regular wide intervals at eye level. They pierce the space like arrows. They seem to combine the ideas of speed, haste, instant decision and layout with the stillness of absolute resolve.
Ridinghouse Editions, 63 Ridinghouse Street, W1 (0171-255 1160). until March 1

SACHA CRADDOCK

CONCERTS: A Brahms centenary celebration; plus Ockeghem remembered

In no hurry

WHILE scholars seek to correct the misprints lately found in Brahms's published works, the existing versions have to serve the tributes for the centenary of his death in April, already begun by Sir Colin Davis and the London Symphony Orchestra. The third of their commemorative programmes at the Barbican focused partly on the Double Concerto.

Usually its performance involves violin and cello soloists of individual repute, often with variable results. Here, however, the LSO's first violin leader, Alexander Barantschik, and Moray Welsh, its principal cello, were sufficiently familiar with each other's style to constitute a well-integrated duo, and so to resolve difficult problems such as the combined double-stopped chords in the finale with poise and clarity, even if the pace was more jog-trot than dance-like.

Earlier in the concerto the cello's firmness of melodic line complemented the violin's keen articulation to purposeful effect, and both brought tenderness of feeling to the eloquent main melody of the central slow movement.

Both soloists reverted to their orchestral positions for the Second Symphony, in which the slow pace favoured by the conductor put the sunniest of the composer's symphonies under something of a cloud. What should have captivated us at the outset by its turbulent vitality sounded almost like a slow movement.

Much of the rest evoked the composer's origins in northern Europe more than the genial Vienna of his adoption, although there was no lack of detail in the playing. The same was true of the *St Anthony Variations* at the start, each of which was invested with a distinctive instrumental character.

NOEL GOODWIN

Sweet harmony

WHILE most music lovers will be aware of the Schubert bicentenary, relatively few will have had their attention drawn to a much earlier songster, Johannes Ockeghem, who died on February 6, 1497. The Orlando Consort marked the day of his death with a superb programme at the Wigmore Hall.

Their Ockeghem concert featured part of a Mass setting, motets and a broad selection of his chansons, giving a welcome insight into the range of his great skill as a composer. For each of their projects, the Orlando Consort work closely with specialists in the field, who provide the musical editions and advice on every aspect of the composer's working context. The result reflects the latest thoughts of the musicological confraternity, but the performers bring their own experience to achieve an instinctive response to the music. Especially resonant were the *Kyrie* and *Agnus dei* of Ockeghem's Mass *De plus en plus* as well as the Offertory from his Requiem. The vocal ranges can be extremely demanding, but the Orlando Consort created interpretations that were remarkable for their ease with a difficult idiom.

Special credit must go to the alto Robert Harre-Jones, who bore the brunt of Ockeghem's demands; singing with consistent sweetness of tone, he projected the composer's intricate melodies with consummate skill. This is not to underestimate the contribution from the lower voices, and one of the highlights of an evening of fine music-making was the group's perfectly balanced account of Josquin's lament on Ockeghem's death, *Nymphes des bois*.

TESS KNIGHTON

CLASSICAL CHOICE

A guide to the best available recordings, presented in conjunction with Radio 3

BORODIN'S SYMPHONY No 2 IN B MINOR
Reviewed by David Fanning

IT TOOK Borodin seven years to complete his Second Symphony, while his great nationalist opera *Prince Igor* was on the back burner. Some of the themes he had composed for the opera went into it, along with the associated imagery of heroic warriors, dusky Polovtsian maidens, the pain and nostalgia of captivity, bardic narration and general merry-making.

Conductors who immediately capture a world of larger-than-life personalities and deeds include Loris Tjeknavorian, Vladimir Ashkenazy, Andrew Davis and Neeme Järvi. In more idiosyncratic ways so do Dmitri Mitropoulos, Constant Lambert and Enrique Batiz (all very fast), Valery Gergiev and Evgeni Svetlanov (both slow-coaches).

In the symphony's lyrical moments Gergiev is in his element, and his Rotterdam Philharmonic woodwind are deliciously suave. Järvi and Svetlanov, both sturdily impressive in the more extrovert passages, tend to exaggerate the expressive swoons and lunges. Ashkenazy is especially stirring in the middle of the first movement and the finale, combining weight of tone and galloping rhythmic momentum, and the 1994 Decca recording captures orchestral perspectives more excitingly than any other.

The second movement is a bubbly scherzo with more than a hint of Borodin's love for Schumann in its obsessive rhythmic drive and syncopations. As in the first movement, Batiz and the Mexico State Symphony Orchestra hold the speed record, but they reduce the rhythmic intricacies to a gabble. Dmitri Mitropoulos with the New York Philharmonic in 1940 gets the full measure of the music's driving energy. His is the best of the historic (pre-1960) versions, by a whisker from Kletzki and the Philharmonia from 1954.

This third movement is marked *andante*, not *adagio*. Conductors who drag the opening, milking the wonderful horn tune for expression, tend to make the more passionately flowing central section seem like an unconnected episode. **Loris Tjeknavorian** is especially bold in keeping the music on the move, and the straightforward singing quality of the **National Philharmonic Orchestra** woodwind makes up for their slightly dodgy intonation. For infectious enthusiasm and a sense of open-air freedom this budget-price RCA issue (RCA VD 60535, £6.49) is my Library recommendation.

● *To order the recommended recording, with free delivery, please send a cheque payable to The Times Music Shop to FREEPOST, SCO681, Forres, IV36 0BR or phone 0345 023 498; e-mail: music@the-times.co.uk*
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■ OPERA 1

Ignore the sceptics, says Bernard Levin: *Palestrina* is little short of a triumph

■ OPERA 2

Lohengrin triumphant: the Royal Opera mounts a night of Wagnerian splendour

THE TIMES ARTS

■ THEATRE

The sizzling *East is East* receives a quick and well-justified second London run

■ TOMORROW

Banking on new art: Lord Alexander explains NatWest's venture into the gallery business

TRISTRAM KENTON

Gösta Winbergh as a lyrical, golden-toned Lohengrin and Sergei Leiferkus as Telramund in Elijah Moshinsky's superb revival of *Lohengrin*

OPERA: **Rodney Milnes** reaches for his own superlatives to describe a triumph

Dream team at their peak

Lohengrin
Covent Garden

You could almost say that there are two Royal Operas today. There's the increasingly dingy building surrounded by "road up" signs and huge holes in the ground, with a management under siege that doesn't quite know what it is going to be performing next season, or indeed where. And then there's a management that can put on a stunning show like this *Lohengrin*, which has had old hands reaching for superlatives and (a favourite and meaningless operatic pastime) their "not since" comparisons. Not since ever, actually: I certainly can't recall a *Lohengrin* of such musical splendour and rare dramatic conviction.

It is quite superbly conducted by Valery Gergiev. Naturally, he brings an invigorating freshness of approach to a score that is not central to his musical experience, a freshness signalled straight off in an account of the Prelude that is blessedly unportentous, almost brisk by comparison with the old German school, yet with a sense of serenity and radiance in full lyrical flow. That flow is maintained throughout the long evening, together with a sinew in the overall pacing to ensure that the music never comes to a halt, as can happen; and to one or two dangerously bombastic passages he brings disarming brilliance and vigour. Not that he shirks the big moments: the arrival of the Swan is viscerally thrilling, and the climax of the second act lifts you out of your seat. The orchestra and Terry Edwards's chorus are at their most full-blooded and alert.

Elijah Moshinsky has returned to revive his 20-year-old production, which was always exemplary and still is. There's a complete absence of clutter in John Napier's gauzy set that enables Moshinsky to concentrate on essentials in both the background — pagan symbols on the few props, the Church Militant among the well-handled extras — and foreground action.

Seldom can the purely human drama have been presented so urgently. For once Lohengrin's and Elsa's Bridal Chamber duet really mattered — Gergiev helped with his intensely dramatic conducting — and of course Moshinsky has a dream cast to work with: a *Lohengrin* in which the Herald is sung by Anthony Michaels-Moore, and the rest is to match, is somewhere near to operatic heaven. Marita Metzita's voice is as radiant as her presence. She produces streams of gleaming, steady soprano sound, only very occasionally allowing you to notice that Elsa is a "big sing" for one so young. But she's clever enough to know this, and how to deal with it. She is also an inventive and communicative actress: Elsa's growing doubts about her upmarket blind date were vividly, touchingly conveyed. When was there last a Lohengrin as lyrical, as golden-toned as Gösta Winbergh? His complete technical security allowed him both to hit and to caress the high-lying phrases without a hint of strain. Magic!

Their adversaries are equally powerful: Sergei Leiferkus as Telramund makes every word tell and stalks the stage like Eisenstein's Ivan the Terrible, and Gwyneth Jones freezes the blood with her serene smile, which is about all she gets to do in the first act.

Thereafter there were one or two unruly notes and patches of thin tone, but you don't look for bel canto in an Ortrud: this is a performance of magisterial authority. Add René Pape as the King, and you indeed have a dream cast: don't miss it.

Where has Pfitzner been all my life?

SECOND OPINION: In the first of a new series, **Bernard Levin** visits *Palestrina* at Covent Garden – and finds his worst fears confounded by a genius

I hope someone, apart from me, has noticed that Jeremy Isaacs's swansong has been trilled for the last time. No one could count the bruises he has endured in what is the most unrewarding post in any position in this land, except perhaps for the man who wipes up the mess when the dogs have finished running at Walthamstow.

But Jeremy's swansong was a strange one. Few had heard of it, and fewer still had heard a note of it. It is called *Palestrina*, and it was written by one Hans Pfitzner (who he?) and hardly had the first note of it been trilled, than cries of "Boring, old-hat, rubbish, waste of time, what did you call it?" were to be heard *on these very pages*.

It was, therefore, with a heavy heart and a disguise that I settled down in my seat to hear the first act of *Palestrina*, which, I had discovered, was a mere hour and three-quarters, with two more acts to come.

I settled further down.

But, when some 20 minutes or so had gone by, I realised that I was in the hands of a great musician, and when another 20 minutes had passed, I knew that *Palestrina* came from the world of genius.

Palestrina was first performed exactly 80 years ago. It is by no means perfect; when it came to shaping a mighty act Pfitzner was clumsy, and his three acts were shovelled together (Palestrina himself doesn't appear at all in the second act). Moreover, the story is bizarre, to say the least: two groups argue about their music — one camp says it is too novel, the other insists on the old style. So what? But when it comes to torture-chambers — and it does — one might think that music was going a little too far.

But the music! The music! It is no use trying to match it with this or that; Pfitzner and his genius pours out — from six o'clock in the afternoon to half-past ten. A good number of people left after the first act, and more did so after the second. But I was nailed to my seat from beginning to end.

> ‘Oh, you fools who left at the first interval’

And now I must jump the hurdle, and jump with enormous glee. Four-and-a-half hours went by, and *I never once thought of Wagner*. When I got home he came back to me, and I began to realise that there are geniuses and geniuses, as if they needed to be told. No, Wagner's music is *not* like Pfitzner's. Some say that both flow like a stream, and if you take it literally that is indeed the case. But the two are not similar. At least, I cannot see the similarities. For one thing, the warmth of Pfitzner's stream is — the only word for it — beautiful. Can a stream be beautiful? Yes, of course it can, and Pfitzner's is.

Then, what about Silla and Ighino, who start the whole story? They are both immensely touching, but listen to the music! Where is Wagner with such music? And then, what about the apparitions, nine of them? In any other hands they would be ludicrous; but listen to the music!

Oh, you fools who left at the first interval, and you who did the same at the second interval, you missed something important — not just important for finishing the music, but something important in your life. Come back, you fools, and *listen* — listen to music that you have never heard before.

No, I am not giving out ladders: is Beethoven better than Mozart, is Schubert better than Brahms, and all the silly wastes of time. I just say that Pfitzner's *Palestrina* is a work of genius, and deserves to — and will — live. For all I know, everything else that Pfitzner wrote might be monumental bilge. So what? We have *Palestrina*.

Never mind the second act; when you have understood it, you will realise that Pfitzner was an even greater genius. And when you have understood the first act and the second, you will not find it difficult to feel the tears on your cheeks. There he is: the broken man — broken in the heart and physically as well. And, as the broken man comes back to life, we know that we have been in the hands of genius.

THEATRE: A sizzling Asian play

Zipped-up culture clash

East is East
Theatre Royal, Stratford

DOZENS of productions have transferred from Stratford to the West End, but I can't recall a previous case of one that began Up West and then moved out to E15. While it is true that Ayub Khan-Din's play opened first at one of the Royal Court's central premises, where nothing is permitted to run for more than three and a half weeks, the swift reappearance is not only a mark of the work's novelty — first modern Asian play to dispense with a Fringe springboard — but of its sizzling quality.

To call what Khan-Din has written an *Asian* play doesn't describe it exactly enough. Set in Salford in 1971, when East Pakistan is in the throes of turning itself into Bangladesh, the Khan family consists of Kashmir-born George (Nasser Memarzia), a humourless disciplinarian, his English wife Ella (Linda Bassett), and six of their seven children.

The eldest son has already rejected his father's demands for total obedience, leaving home to be a hairdresser. Now George has arranged for the next two sons to marry girls from Bradford — Bradistan, the children call it — and revolt is simmering.

Linda Bassett as Ella with Imran Ali as one of her rebellious sons

The author extends a little sympathy to the father, allowing him one moment of wordless grief at the counter of his fish and chip shop, but what stays in the mind is his readiness to knock his wife down whenever she ventures to interfere with his resolve to rear his offspring according to the customs of ancestral Muslim culture. The problem is that his children are growing up influenced by their two cultures, and what the play suggests is the anguish this brings them. The scenes in which they lark about their home or in the chip shop are laced with good humour and acts of comical rebellion, but there is an undertow of anxiety. The youngest son will not be parted from the zipped-up security of his parka.

Yes, some scenes are rough at the edges, and rough in the middle too — a dispute between the two eldest boys turns to harmony too soon — but the play's qualities override such complaints.

There have been plays before where parent-child stresses are complicated by adjustment to life in Britain, but these have been set in families from the Caribbean or West Africa. The interplay between the young actors in Khan-Din's play, sensitively directed by Kristine Landon-Smith for Tamasha Theatre Co, gives us not only the Asian angle, but the angle from six bright adolescent points.

JEREMY KINGSTON

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CHANGING TIMES

هكذا من الاصل

■ CHOICE 1

Molière revived: Peter Bowles and Co take on *The School for Wives*

VENUE: Opens tonight at the Piccadilly Theatre

■ CHOICE 2

Una Stubbs heads the cast as Shaw's *Misalliance* is revived in Mold

VENUE: Opens tonight at the Theatr Clwyd

THE TIMES ARTS

■ DANCE 1

From the land of the soaring son, Tetsuya Kumakawa brings dazzle and verve to Covent Garden

■ DANCE 2

It's no contest when the choreography of Mark Bruce meets the rock pyrotechnics of Polly Jean Harvey

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

LONDON

LONDON CHORAL SOCIETY: Ronald Corp conducts the London Choral Society and New London Orchestra in the first public performance of Richard Blackford's seven-part cantata, *Mirror of Perfection*. Blackford's settings of unknown poems by St Francis of Assisi are given with Fauré's magnificent Requiem. With Marilyn Hill Smith, soprano, and Ian Caddy, baritone.
Festival Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Tonight, 7.30pm.

LUCIANO FABRO: The Italian artist's new work for the Tate's annual sculpture exhibition comprises a fallen white marble column representing the sun, and a vertical black marble column representing the moon. The classical architecture of the Duveen Galleries provides a dramatic setting for this and two other works by Fabro.
Tate Gallery, Millbank, SW1 (0171-887 8000). Opens today. Then daily, 10am-5.50pm. Until June 15.

THE SCHOOL FOR WIVES: Peter Bowles plays the misguided teacher, with Eric Sykes and Carmen Silvera as the servants, in Peter Hall's direction of the Molière comedy. Translation by Ranjit Bolt.
Piccadilly, Denman Street, W1 (0171-369 1734). Opens tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm, and Sat, 5pm.

ELSEWHERE

BIRMINGHAM: Birmingham Repertory Theatre Company presents a new production of **The Merchant of Venice**. Cathy Tyson plays Portia in Bill Alexander's traditional setting of Shakespeare's Renaissance drama. With David Schofield as Shylock and Don Warrington as Antonio.
Repertory, Broad Street (0121-236 4455). Opens tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs (Feb 13, 20), 2.30pm; Sat (Feb 22), 3pm. Until March 8.

EDINBURGH: Pam Brighton directs Marie Jones's richly textured comedy, **Women on the Verge of HRT**.
Festival, Nicolson Street (0131-529 6000). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm.

MOLD: Una Stubbs, Abigail Thaw and Nick Waring in Shaw's **Misalliance**, a talkative comedy unfairly neglected, perhaps because a plane has to crashland on the greenhouse.
Anthony Hopkins Studio, Theatr Clwyd (01352 755114). Opens tonight, 7.30pm. Then Tue-Fri, 7.30pm; Sat, 8pm; mat Sat (Feb 22, March 1, 8), 3pm. Until March 8.

NORWICH: Opera North's new touring production of Verdi's comedy, **Falstaff**, is conducted by Paul Daniel. Andrew Shore sings the title role, with Margaret Richardson as Nanetta and Frances McCafferty as Mistress Quickly. Directed by Matthew Warchus, with lighting by Peter Mumford. Sung in English.
Theatre Royal, Theatre Street (01603 630000). Tonight-Thurs, 7.30pm. Next in **Sunderland**, Empire (0191-514 2517), Feb 18 and 21.

LONDON GALLERIES

Camden Arts Centre: Pensieri(ne)s (0171-435 2643) ... **Courtauld**: The Art of Etching (0171-873 2526) ... **Dulwich Picture**: Dramatic Art: Theatrical Paintings from the Garrick Club (0181-693 5254) ... **Gallery K**: Maria Ghist (0171-794 4949) ... **Goethe-Institut**: Raoul Hausmann: Photographic Works 1927-1957 (0171-411 3400) ... **Llewellyn Alexander**: Maureen Jordan and Fraser King (0171-620 1322) ... **Mall**: National Print Exhibition 1997 (0171-930 6844) ... **New Academy**: Rob Olins (0171-323 4700) ... **The October**: Elisabeth Lalouschek: New Works (0171-242 7367) ... **Theo Waddington Fine Art**: Nicholas Harding: Recent Paintings (0171-494 1584)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
□ Seats at all prices

■ **ART**: Albert Finney, Tom Courtenay and Ken Stott in an exceptionally interesting drama about friendship, unspoken resentment and an almost all-white canvas. Matthew Warchus directs.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Rd, WC2 (0171-369 1736). Tue-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm, Sat and Sun, 5pm.

□ **BEATRIX**: Cosy one-woman-show by Patricia Routledge, dipping into the life of Miss Potter, chronicler of floppy bunnies and breeder of sheep.
Greenwich, Crooms Hill, SE10 (0181-858 7755). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm. Until February 15.

■ **COCKROACH, WHO?**: Jerwood Series of New Playwrights continues with Jess Walters's play about three girls on a south London estate. Directed by Caroline Hall.
Royal Court Theatre Upstairs (Stage), Ambassadors, West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000). Mon-Sat, 8.45pm; mats Sat (Feb 15, March 1), 4pm. Until March 1.

■ **GUYS AND DOLLS**: Richard Eyre revives his famous production of the Frank Loesser musical. With Imelda Staunton, Harry Goodman, Clarke Peters and Joanna Riding.
National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Mon-Sat, 7.15pm; mats Tue, Wed, Thurs, 2pm; Sat 2pm.

□ **SHAKUNTULA**: Intriguing tale of the marriage of a king and a heavenly nymph, taken from the Mahabharata and dramatised by Peter Oswald, author of Fair Ladies at a Game of Poem Cards. Indhu Rubasingham directs.
Gate, Pembridge Road, W11 (0171-229 0706). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. Until March 8.

□ **70 HILL LANE**: Phelim McDermott's fascinating re-creation of the time his childhood home was occupied by a poltergeist, using 2 helpers and rolls and rolls of Sellotape. Recommended.
BAC, Lavender Hill, SW11 (0171-223 2223). Re-opens today, 8pm. Then Tue-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 6pm. Until February 23.

□ **SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE**: Subtitled "The Songs of Leiber and Stoller". Hit Broadway compilation show celebrating a successful songwriting team, responsible for *Hound Dog*, *Jailhouse Rock* and *Spanish Harlem*.
Prince of Wales, Coventry Street, W1 (0171-839 5987). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 3pm.

□ **DAVID STRASSMAN**: Two weeks only to see the astonishing American ventriloquist, who finally leaves his foul-mouthed dummy, Chuck Wood, on stage to fend for himself — which, amazingly, he does.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070). Tue-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 6pm and 8.45pm. Until February 15.

□ **TROILUS AND CRESSIDA**: Ian Judge's busy production. Victoria Hamilton's Cressida and some other performances enliven a long evening.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Tonight-Sat, 7pm; mat Thurs and Sat, 1.30pm. In rep.

LONG RUNNERS

■ **Buddy**: Strand (0171-930 8800) ◪ **An Inspector Calls**: Garrick (0171-494 5085) ... □ **Jesus Christ Superstar**: Lyceum (0171-656 1807) □ **Jolson**: Victoria Palace (0171-834 1317) ... ◪ **Miss Saigon**: Drury Lane (0171-494 5400) ... □ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (0171-836 1443) □ **Oliver!**: Palladium (0171-494 5020) ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400) ... □ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (0171-416 6054) ... □ **Sunset Boulevard**: Adelphi (0171-344 0055) □ **The Women in Black**: Fortune (0171-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **FLY AWAY HOME** (U): Endearing tale of orphaned Canada geese, with Anna Paquin and Jeff Daniels. Director, Carroll Ballard.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** (0990 888990) **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

HIS GIRL FRIDAY (U): Hard, fast newspaper comedy, vintage 1940, with Cary Grant and Rosalind Russell. Director, Howard Hawks.
Curzon Phoenix (0171-369 1721) **NFT** (0171-928 3232)

THE PROPRIETOR (12): French writer returns home to wartime memories. Leaden drama, with Jeanne Moreau. Director, Ismail Merchant.
Minema (0171-235 4225) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Virgin Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

RIDICULE (15): Patrice Leconte's witty and diverting costume piece set in Louis XVI's court, with Fanny Ardant, Jean Rochefort.
Barbican (0171-638 8891) **Chelsea** (0171-351 3742) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Curzon West End** (0171-369 1722) **Gate Notting Hill** (0171-727 4043) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen on the Hill** (0171-435 3366)

◆ **WHITE MAN'S BURDEN** (15): John Travolta claims justice from his employee, Harry Belafonte. Flawed presentation of an interesting premise.
Odeon West End (0181-315 4221)

CURRENT

CARLA'S SONG (15): A Glaswegian bus driver follows his love to Nicaragua and receives his political education. Uneven but heartfelt drama from Ken Loach; with Oyanka Cabezas.
Lumiere (0171-836 0691) **Rio** (0171-254 6677) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520) **Virgin Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **EVITA** (PG): Madonna sings with passion, but production overkill plays havoc with Lloyd Webber's rock opera.
ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Plaza** (0990 888990) **UCI Whiteleys** (0990 888990) **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **EXTREME MEASURES** (15): Dashing doctor Hugh Grant stumbles on unethical research in New York. Far-fetched medical thriller, with Gene Hackman. Director, Michael Apted.
ABC Baker Street (0171-935 9772) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **West End** (0181-315 4221) **UCI Whiteleys** (0990 888990) **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-352 5096)

◆ **THE FRIGHTENERS** (15): Peter Jackson's jokey thriller about a psychic swindler (Michael J. Fox) who stumbles upon a supernatural killing spree.
Empire (0990 888990) **UCI Whiteleys** (0990 888990) **Virgin Trocadero** (0171-434 0031)

◆ **THE GHOST AND THE DARKNESS** (15): Man-eating East African lions cause trouble for Val Kilmer and Michael Douglas.
Empire (0990-888 990) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031)

LOOKING FOR RICHARD (12): Al Pacino's infectious film about the appeal of Shakespeare and *Richard III*.
Odeon Haymarket (0181-315 4212)

The Orient express

DANCE: Tetsuya Kumakawa lives for speed in life as well as on the stage at Covent Garden, as Allen Robertson discovers

Tetsuya Kumakawa does not eat, drink and sleep ballet. In fact, despite his abundant talent, Kumakawa is not even sure he actually likes it. "Ballet is a killer, very hard work," he says. "Often I think: 'Why am I doing this? This is torture'."

No one watching him whiz through a performance at Covent Garden would ever guess he harboured such traitorous thoughts. One of the most gregarious — some would say show-off — dancers around, his effervescent energy has won him a huge fan club.

"Making the audience happy is important to me," says Kumakawa, who turns 25 next month. "The only moment I think that it's been worth the killing of myself is when I get the audience's applause."

Those cheers are never in short supply. Kumakawa is a born show-stopper who can jump higher and spin faster than virtually any other male dancer in the world. One member of the Covent Garden audience was overheard to say that Kumakawa accomplished his tricks in *Mr Worldly Wise* last season only because he was hooked up to a flywire.

Offstage, Kumakawa refuses to follow the straight and narrow of a dancer's life. He doesn't like the daily grind of morning ballet class, and is not keen on rehearsing. "I ignore ballet completely when I'm not on the stage," he says. "I don't get hysterical about it because the whole of life is risky."

He has a reputation as a bit of a playboy, and an acknowledged craving for fast motor vehicles. He now drives a red Ferrari, but the second he was legally old enough he bought himself a motorbike — never mind that his contract all but forbade him to ride it. But then Kumakawa is not the kind of person to be interested in small print — and certainly not in small performances.

The Japanese-born dancer first shot to attention in 1989 in the spectacular solo that opens the final act of *La Bayadère*. Covered from head to toe in gold body paint he induced nightly excitement in the stalls with his 90-second performance.

On Thursday he makes his debut in Twyla Tharp's *Push Comes to Shove*, taking on one of the most bravura of all male roles. Tharp created it for Mikhail Baryshnikov in 1976, and it has enough dazzle, humour and pyrotechnics to keep even Kumakawa alert and challenged.

"I didn't think I could actually ever enjoy rehearsing," he says. "I love performing, but when I'm stuck in the studio all day I lose concentration and want to go home. I start thinking about something else: about the car, about women. But working on Twyla's ballet makes me concentrate.

"I've always wanted to do this ballet. I remember watching videos of Baryshnikov and thinking 'I wish I could do that like he did'. But at the moment I don't think I should do like he did. I should do it like me."

Kumakawa's talent was first developed in the northern Japanese city of Sapporo, where he took his first dance lesson at the age of ten. When he began going to Tokyo for additional classes, his older brother complained about it. "I said to him, 'So why don't you dance too?'. And he would say: 'I can't wear tights. That's not for a man to do.'

"Now, when I go back to Japan my brother says: 'You're so lucky. You go to every single country, you make pretty good money, you drive a Ferrari.'" But, Kumakawa adds: "He still thinks tights are not for a man."

DES JENSON

It took Twyla Tharp's *Push Comes to Shove* to get Tetsuya Kumakawa's mind off cars and on to rehearsals. He opens in the ballet on Thursday

Tights have suited Kumakawa well. He arrived at the Royal Ballet School when he was 14. His plan was to head for America as soon as he graduated, but graduation (in the formal sense) never actually happened. Less than two years later, just after Kumakawa won a gold medal at the Prix de Lausanne competition, the Royal Ballet's artistic director, Anthony Dowell, invited him to join the company. Not only was Kumakawa just 16, one of the youngest men ever brought into the company, he was also Covent Garden's first Oriental dancer.

It came, he says, as an absolute surprise. "I was shocked; I wasn't expecting that at all. I never thought about getting into the Royal Ballet because I thought they would never take an Oriental.

"But I was lucky that Anthony was the director. He knows that the world is changing. He understands that a good dancer is good, and it doesn't matter what colour you are. If the director had been somebody else, I might never have been here."

● Push Comes to Shove *opens at Covent Garden, WC2 (0171-304 4000) on Thursday*

Hesitant steps into a storm

Mark Bruce
Queen Elizabeth Hall

THE dancers of Mark Bruce's company are a likeable bunch but a little self-effacing. The singer Polly Jean Harvey is uncomfortably abrasive but enormously compelling. Put them on the same stage and it is like a David of contemporary dance meeting a Goliath of rock music. The only attention-seeking weapon the dancers possess are their steps, but no matter how many shots Mark Bruce fires off into the musical onslaught, his choreography fights a losing battle in the spotlight war.

Dance Hall at Louse Point, the touring collaborative effort which arrived at the Festival Hall on Thursday, features lyrics by Harvey, music by John Parish and choreography and direction by Bruce. Parish and Harvey released their contribution as an album last year, although their live version makes several substantial changes to it.

Parish's music is lazy and slow to burn, erecting a wall of guitar overload that eventually achieves monumental status. Harvey's lyrics are equally self-aggrandising in a raw, excoriating way, perfectly in keeping with Parish's sweeping musical distortions.

She sings of loss and loneliness, darkness and disillusion — and throws in a stunning rendition of the Peggy Lee standard *Is That All There Is?* (with no programme credit that I could spot), which turns out to be the musical highlight of the show. This scrawny, half-formed woman sings in a voice that heads off down the motorway at full throttle, dizzyingly beautiful at times, sickeningly brash at others. Whatever your feelings about Harvey's brand of demon-driven rock, there is no denying her power as a performer.

And that is really Bruce's problem. He is enamoured of the music, yet defeated by it. There is no narrative correlation between choreography and lyrics — and neither need there be — but the dance has to do something to declare itself. Like Harvey, Bruce mines the creative possibilities of despair; indeed, the movement language is at its best when depicting a kind of apocalyptic fatalism. But unlike Harvey, Bruce never goes far enough down any one particular road. The ambition of his choreography is so small and its language so minimal that the result is pathetically feeble. Against this, the aggressive music of Parish and the brazen vocals of Harvey are free to demolish everything in their path.

DEBRA CRAINE

ART GALLERIES

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To advertise in ENTERTAINMENTS Tel: 0171 680 6222 or fax: 0171 481 9313

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LYRIC 0171 494 5045 cc 420 0100/344 4444 (bkg fee) "THE MOST UNPRETENTIOUSLY ENJOYABLE SHOW IN LONDON" Tms BY JEEVES THE ALAN AYCKBOURN & ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER MUSICAL "...HAD THE AUDIENCE BUCKLING UP WITH LAUGHTER" Ind Eves 7.45, Mats Weds & Sat 3pm Concessions available. MUST CLOSE 22 FEB Prior to National Tour

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 0171 928 2252 Grps 0171 620 0741; 24hr cc bkg fee 0171 420 0000. Please allow extra journey/parking time because of major roadworks. OLIVIER Ton't 7.15, Tomor 2.00 & 7.15 GUYS AND DOLLS Music and lyrics by Frank Loesser. Book by Jo Swerling & Abe Burrows. LYTTELTON Today 2.15 & 7.30, Tomor 7.30 THE HOMECOMING Harold Pinter COTTESLOE Ton't 7.30 (PREVIEW), Tomor 7.00 (PRESS NIGHT) CARDIFF EAST a new play by Peter Gill

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PHOENIX BO/CC 0171 369 1733 /344 4444/420 0000 (fee) BEST MUSICAL Olivier/Drama Awards Plays & Players/Ivor Novello Awards WILLY RUSSELL'S BLOOD BROTHERS "Brings the audience to its feet, and roaring its approval" D Mail 10TH TRIUMPHANT YEAR Eves 7.45 Mats Thurs 3pm Sat 4pm NOW BOOKING UNTIL JAN'98

PICCADILLY 0171 369 1734 344 4444/420 0000 (24 hrs) Eves 8, Mats Wed 3 & Sat 5 THE PETER HALL COMPANY PETER BOWLES CARMEN SILVERA HENRY McGEE ERIC SYKES in Molière's hilarious comedy THE SCHOOL FOR WIVES TONIGHT AT 7 - 2 FOR PRICE OF 1

PRINCE OF WALES 0171 839 5987 First Call 420 0000 cc 344 4444 Grps 420 0200 freephone/0800 614803 2 OLIVIER AWARD NOMINATIONS INCLUDING OUTSTANDING MUSICAL PRODUCTION "HOT FROM BROADWAY, AND I MEAN SMOKIN'. ENOUGH ENERGY TO ELECTRIFY A CITY." D. Mail GRAMMY AWARD WINNING MUSICAL SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE THE SONGS OF LEIBER & STOLLER Directed by Jerry Zaks "AMERICAN GRAFFITI MEETS WEST SIDE STORY" E. Std. Mon-Sat 8pm, Thu & Sat Mats 3pm

PRINCE EDWARD 0171 447 5400 First Call 420 0100 cc 344 4444 Groups 420 0200 Nominated for 4 Olivier Awards including: BEST NEW MUSICAL "REAL POWER & PASSION A BLOCKBUSTER" D. Tel "A BIG MAGNIFICENT EPIC MUSICAL. A GREAT EVENING OUT" S. Times MARTIN GUERRE BOUBLIL & SCHONBERG'S "MUSICAL MASTERPIECE" Int Her Trib Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thur & Sat 3.00

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RACING: OPINIONS DIVIDED OVER MERITS OF IRELAND'S FESTIVAL CHALLENGERS

Gold Cup test is multiple choice

By Our Irish Racing Correspondent

EVEN for a country that prides itself on being the home of steeplechasing, Ireland has rarely had it so good. Not since Arkle redefined jumping excellence will the Irish travel to Cheltenham so confident of winning the Gold Cup.

Imperial Call, last year's winner, and the novices, Danoli and Dorans Pride, have encouraged a confidence beyond even the usual pre-Cheltenham gusto. Although the Gold Cup's 3¼ miles and 22 fences have a way of puncturing over-confidence, it is difficult not to think that the bookmakers have it right in installing the Irish team at the head of the betting.

That, however, does not mean the punters will have the last word. In 1971, Irish horses also dominated the market but it was the previous year's winner, L'Escargot, who beat the favourite, Leap Frog.

Fergie Sutherland is hoping history repeats itself. Despite Imperial Call's injury-hit season and distant third to Danoli in the Hennessy Gold Cup, he is still a popular choice to emulate L'Escargot. "Imperial Call will be a lot closer to Danoli next time," Brian Graham, of Sean Graham Bookmakers, said yesterday. "Fergie Sutherland knows exactly what he has to do to have him at his peak on the day. Danoli could easily make a mistake at Cheltenham and come down, and my only doubt about Dorans Pride is that he has beaten the same horse twice. Is he improving or is See More Business going backwards?"

The popular view is that Imperial Call blew up in the Hennessy and will be a more potent force at Cheltenham. If he returns to the form he showed last March any debate would probably be pointless, but the records are littered with horses who return promisingly from a break but fail to progress.

Willie Mullins, who witnessed the preparation his father, Paddy, gave Dawn Run in 1986, takes a positive view. "I don't think Imperial Call will go backwards. He was very fit early in the season and that's a big factor. Imperial Call is the marker and has nothing to prove around the course. Taking a novice to Cheltenham for the first time is a major worry. Danoli will be seeing a water jump for the first time and the ditches will be different to what he has seen."

The thought of Danoli tackling the open ditches and the downhill fences has encouraged the layers to make him the longest price of the three. Two falls from only five starts supports that view but Charlie Swan, a former partner of Danoli's, sees signs that Tom Foley's horse is improving quickly. "He was very good over the last two fences in the Hennessy," Swan said. "Having gone mostly long before that, he fiddled them very quickly. If he jumps the same at Cheltenham he should be all right."

Dorans Pride's connections insist he is not a certain Gold Cup runner, despite it being his only Cheltenham entry, yet he has jumped as adeptly as could be expected of a novice.

The last time Dorans Pride and Danoli clashed at Cheltenham was in the 1994 Sun Alliance Hurdle when Dorans Pride fell at the last. "Although there was little between them over hurdles, Dorans Pride's jumping looks a little more reliable," Swan said. "I think they would be crazy not to run. There's only one Gold Cup, he could be injured at any time and I haven't seen anything in England to get within a couple of lengths of the Irish horses."

IAN STEWART

Imperial Call clears the last fence on his way to victory in last year's Gold Cup

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: MERRY MERMAID (2.10 Ayr)

Next best: Kintavi (4.30 Leicester)

RACING AHEAD

Robert Wright suggests the best value in the ante-post market

QUEEN MOTHER CHAMPION CHASE

Cheltenham, March 12

GUIDE TO THE LEADING PRICES

	Coral	Hills	Tote
Klairon Davis	3-1	9-4	11-4
Viking Flagship	3-1	3-1	7-2
Strong Promise	5-1	6-1	5-1
Ask Tom	5-1	9-2	6-1
Sound Man	7-1	8-1	6-1
Double Symphony	16-1	20-1	14-1
Merry Gale	20-1	14-1	14-1
Arctic Kinsman	16-1	16-1	16-1
Martha's Son	16-1	16-1	20-1
Or Royal	25-1	25-1	25-1
Lord Dorcet	25-1	33-1	25-1
Gales Cavalier	16-1	16-1	33-1

THE Champion Chase rarely attracts a large field, and this year looks likely to prove no exception with just 16 entries. Of those, few have serious claims to the crown.

Strong Promise grabbed the headlines when beating One Man and Sound Man over 2½ miles at Ascot last Wednesday. He has plenty of potential, but Sound Man's jumping was again poor there, and One Man is probably best over three miles.

Ask Tom stayed on gamely to collar Clay County at Kempton, with Viking Flagship, conceding a stone, beaten three lengths in fourth. He shaped as though a stiffer track would suit, but ran poorly when a distant sixth in the Arkle at last year's Festival and still has plenty to prove.

Viking Flagship, the Champion Chase winner in 1994 and 1995, found Klairon Davis five lengths too good in his attempt for a treble last year. He shaped extremely well behind Ask Tom, travelling best turning for home until lack of a recent run told, and is peaking at the right time. An admirably tough customer, he is sure to go well.

However, Klairon Davis confirmed that he is back to form when shouldering top weight to victory in a handicap at Navan on Saturday and will take all the beating in the Champion Chase. He has a tremendous record at the Festival, having also won the Arkle in 1995, and he looks to have the race at his mercy. KLAIRON DAVIS is likely to be a warm order on the day, and the 3-1 now offered by Coral should be taken.

POINT-TO-POINT DETAILS

Alan Hill rejoined Tim Mitchell at the head of the national men's championship when Sign became his fifth winner of the season at the Cambridge University meeting on Sunday (Carl Evans writes). Yorkshire's Noel Wilson is one behind after Boulevard Bay dead-heated at Wetherby, while the northern champion, Andrew Parker, completed a double at Alnwick.

BADSWORTH (Wetherby point-to-point course): Confined: 1, Cot Lane (J Tate, 5-1); 2, Gran Marchant; 3, Clare Lad. 10 ran. Open Mdn I: 1, Harrys Special (G Tuer, 14-1); 2, Arras-Tina; 3, Pacific Rambler. 8 ran. Open Mdn II: 1, Gillie's Fountain (A Dalton, 2-1 jt-fav); 2, Cookie Boy; 3, Muscoates. 8 ran. Open Mdn III: 1, Transcendental (Miss A Deniel, 7-1); 2, Olympic Class; 3, Flashlight. 14 ran. Ladies: 1, Cumberland Blues (Miss A Deniel, 10-1); 2, Dark Dawn; 3, Final Hope. 10 ran. PPORA Rest: 1, Political Sam (N Smith); 1, Boulevard Bay (N Wilson); 3, Ruff Account. 11 ran. Men's Open: 1, Peanuts Pet (R Walmsley, 6-1); 2, Country Tarrogen; 3, Tobin Bronze. 15 ran. Open Mdn: 1, Gold Choice (A Ogden, 10-1); 2, Secret Bay; 3, Andrelot's Heir. 18 ran. Hunt: 1, Breckenbrough Lad (I Bennett, Evens); 2, My True Clown. 2 ran.

CAMBRIDGE UNIV DRAGHOUNDS (Cottenham): Hunt: 1, Auchendolly (S Sporborg, 3-5 fav); 2, Solid; 3, Valatch. 6 ran. Intermediate: 1, Sign (A Hill, 6-4 fav); 2, Mister Black; 3, Druid's Lodge. 13 ran. Men's Open: 1, Cardinal Richelieu (S Sporborg, 3-1); 2, River Melody; 3, Airtrak. 9 ran. Ladies: 1, Richard Hunt (Miss L Rowe, 10-11 fav); 2, Mountshannon; 3, Wistino. 11 ran. Rest: 1, Mister Spectator (C Gordon, Evens fav); 2, Claydons Monty; 3, Swift Reward. 14 ran. Open Mdn I: 1, Regal Bay (W Wales, 3-1); 2, Reverend Brown; 3, True Chimes. 11 ran. Open Mdn II: 1, Zoes Pet (Miss H Pewter, 20-1); 2, Regency Cottage; 3, Insulate. 10 ran.

COLLEGE VALLEY & N N'LAND (Alnwick): Hunt: 1, Sister Seven (Miss D Laidlaw, 4-5 jt-fav); 2, Seek And Destroy. Only two finished. 2 ran. Intermediate: 1, Murder Moss (S Coltherd, 6-1); 2, Fiscal Policy; 3, Farmers Favourite. 7 ran. Rest: 1, Makin' Doo (A Parker, 2-1 fav); 2, Denim Blue; 3, Jads Lad. 13 ran. Ladies: 1, Misty Night (Miss A Bowie, 9-2); 2, Parsons Brig; 3, Lupy Minstrel. 9 ran. Men's Open: 1, Washaloe (J Walton, 6-4); 2, Royal Jester; 3, Lion Of Vienna. 6 ran. Open Mdn I: 1, Sky Missile (T Oates, 10-1); 2, Severe Storm; 3, Buckaroo. 11 ran. Open Mdn II: 1, Nothingtotellme (A Parker, Evens fav); 2, Bluebell Track; 3, Peelinick. 12 ran. Open Mdn III: 1, Star Lea (B Stonehouse, 2-1 jt-fav); 2, Captain Guinness; 3, Dillons Bridge. 16 ran.

MIDLAND AREA CLUB (Thorpe Lodge): Hunt: 1, Alpha One (P Gee, 8-1); 2, R N Commander; 3, Ridwan. 9 ran. Men's Open: 1, Lucky Christopher (G Tarry, 1-2 fav); 2, Raise An Argument; 3, Trusty Friend. 5 ran. Ladies: 1, The Boiler White (Miss J Froggatt, 10-3); 2, Naughty Nellie; 3, Nowhiski. 4 ran. PPORA Rest: 1, Camdhu Misty (P Gee, 8-1); 2, Miss Solitaire; 3, Holmby Mill. 7 ran. Mdn: 1, Bubbly Boy (G Tarry, 2-1 fav); 2, Barneys Gold; 3, Greenacres Rose. 12 ran.

TWESELDOWN CLUB (Tweseldown): Hunt: 1, Derton Ri (T McCarthy, 5-2 fav); 2, Sky Venture; 3, Glen Cherry. 8 ran. City Of London: 1, Roving Report (Mrs A Rucker, 1-3 fav); 2, Button Your Lip; 3, Mount Patrick. 3 ran. Men's Open: 1, Ardbrennan (C Bennett, 4-7 fav); 2, Star Oats; 3, Beach Bum. 9 ran. Ladies: 1, Spacial (Miss M Hill, 4-1); 2, Arctic Chill; 3, Tudor Henry. 10 ran. Open Mdn I: 1, Normead Lass (A Martin, 25-1); 2, Ally Pally; 3, Ted's Knight. 10 ran. Open Mdn II: 1, Fiddlers Knap (J Hobbs, 9-2); 2, And Why Not; 3, Looking. 12 ran. Moderate: 1, Grimley Gale (A Wintle, 2-1 jt-fav); 2, Fowling Piece; 3, Local Manor. 12 ran.

LEICESTER

THUNDERER

2.00 Sailor Jim. 2.30 Tulu. 3.00 Dannicus. 3.30 Shining Light. 4.00 Anna Soleil. 4.30 Kintavi.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (CHASE COURSE); GOOD TO SOFT (HURDLES)

TOTE JACKPOT MEETING — SIS

2.00 WREN HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,179: 2m 4f 110yd) (8 runners)

101 F/151-25 EVEN BLUE 54 (D,BF,G,S) (Mrs C Black) Mrs C Black 9-12-0 .... J Railton 95
102 15-U5F1 MACGEORGE 19 (D,G,S) (J Watson) R Lee 7-11-6 .... A Maguire 94
103 0-4F324 SAILOR JIM 18 (D,BF,G,S) (R Perkins) P Dalton 10-11-4 .... N Williamson 98
104 2452-F5 HOWGILL 13 (B,F,G) (C Lockhart) T Forster 11-10-7 .... S Wynne 93
105 6FP-345 CROPREDY LAD 13 (F) (R Hall) P Webber 10-10-5 .... J Osborne 89
106 P411/6-0 TRIBAL RULER 13 (D,F,G,S) (J Singleton) D McCain 12-10-0 .... D Walsh 80
107 3F-P60F SPEARHEAD AGAIN 52 (L Jakeman) K Bridgwater 8-10-0 .... B Powell 89
108 044034 COUNT BARACHOIS 12 (F,S) (Mrs E Heath) Mrs E Heath 9-10-0 .... K Gaule 90

Long handicap: Tribal Ruler 9-11, Spearhead Again 9-11, Count Barachois 9-7.

BETTING: 7-4 Macgeorge, 11-4 Cropredy Lad, 9-2 Sailor Jim, 8-1 Even Blue, 10-1 Howgill, 12-1 Count Barachois, 14-1 others.

1996: NO CORRESPONDING MEETING

FORM FOCUS

EVEN BLUE beat Lord Gyllene 1¼l in 6-runner novice handicap chase at Uttoxeter (3m 2f, good) March 96. MACGEORGE beat Random Harvest 2l in 7-runner novice handicap chase at Wetherby (2m 4f 110yd, good). SAILOR JIM 16l 2nd of 6 to Lord Gyllene in handicap chase at Uttoxeter (3m, good to soft) on penultimate start. HOWGILL 12l 2nd of 9 to Fancheon Gale in handicap chase at Worcester (2m 7f, good) on penultimate start. CROPREDY LAD 13l 5th of 7 to Shining Light in handicap chase over course and distance (good to firm). COUNT BARACHOIS 13l 3rd of 5 to Khalidi in handicap chase at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, good to soft) on penultimate start.
Selection: SAILOR JIM

2.30 VICARAGE CLAIMING HURDLE
(£2,595: 2m) (19 runners)

201 3224-10 WHITE WILLOW 10 (V,D,F,G,S) (P Stringer) T Wall 8-11-11 .... R Massey (3) 99
202 213/F4P- TULU 244F (D,S) (M Houlston) Mrs J Ramsden 6-11-9 .... R Garritty 88
203 0 ESPLA 13 (L Doherty) J Moore 6-11-8 .... W McFarland —
204 51/02-P5 HIGH LOW 5 (B,D,F,S) (M Lanfranchi) W Jenks 9-11-8 .... T Jenks 60
205 0P30-02 SHEECKY 13 (CD,S) (Mrs A Beard) B McMahon 6-11-8 .... S Ryan (5) 50
206 0P5606 ADMIRAL'S GUEST 55 (V) (D Ashbrook) W Clay 5-11-5 .... R Johnson —
207 ARABIAN DESIGN 144F (J Jennings) J Ringer 5-11-5 .... B Powell —
208 0P0-PRP ERNEST ARAGORN 11 (V) (P Lamyman) Mrs S Lamyman 8-11-5 .... R Farrant —
209 516P-PP KHAZARI 208 (D,F,G,S) (R Brotherton) R Brotherton 9-11-5 .... L Harvey —
210 MANABAR 24F (K Rayner) M Polglase 5-11-5 .... V Smith —
211 00 MONTY 67 (M Alderney) G Yardley 5-11-5 .... V Slattery —
212 PPPP ASHLEY HOUSE 11 (B) (B Hammond) B Millman 8-11-2 .... D Salter (5) —
213 0 BACKHANDER 115 (L Metcalf) R Phillips 5-11-2 .... J Railton —
214 04/50 GI MOSS 13 (B) (P Harriss) P Harriss 10-10-11 .... W Marston —
215 05- BRICK COURT 130F (R J Houghton) R Johnson Houghton 5-10-8 .... N Williamson —
216 0 MILL DANCER 64 (P Hiatt) P Hiatt 5-10-8 .... S Wynne —
217 06P APACHE PARK 7 (B) (M Hynes) M Sheppard 4-10-5 .... D Gallagher 81
218 THREESOCKS 22F (K Burke) B Smart 4-10-3 .... I Lawrence —
219 00 BITES 13 (W Meah) T Bill 4-10-0 .... T Eley —

BETTING: 3-1 Tulu, 7-2 White Willow, 6-1 Sheecky, 8-1 Backhander, 10-1 High Low, 12-1 Threesocks, 14-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

WHITE WILLOW beat Aide Memoire 3½l in 12-runner claiming hurdle at Newcastle (2m, good) on penultimate start. TULU about 11¾l 4th of 10 to Kadak in 10-runner handicap hurdle at Wetherby (2m, good) on penultimate start. HIGH LOW 11l 2nd of 4 to Jacob's Wife in novice chase at Uttoxeter (2m, good to firm) Dec 96. SHEECKY 7l 2nd of 8 to Beechfield Flyer in handicap hurdle over course and distance (good to soft) on penultimate start. ADMIRAL'S GUEST about 30l 6th of 14 to D'naan in selling novice hurdle at Bangor (2m 1f, good). GI MOSS 18l 7th of 19 to Brambles Way in claiming novice hurdle over course and distance (good to soft).
Selection: WHITE WILLOW

3.00 THURNBY MAIDEN CHASE
(£2,627: 2m 1f) (11 runners)

301 0P00-PP ALTHREY ARISTOCRAT 71 (F Lloyd) F Lloyd 7-11-5 .... S McNeill —
302 34-2353 CHARLIE PARROT 11 (Mrs A Farrant) M Pipe 7-11-5 .... Jamie Evans —
303 0-30 DANNICUS 18 (C Rashbrook) N Babbage 6-11-5 .... V Slattery —
304 6P0P0- FRANK KNOWS 309 (Mrs C Peacock) T George 7-11-5 .... R Johnson —
305 256-FP0 FULL SHILLING 13 (B) (G Farr) D Williams 8-11-5 .... Guy Lewis (3) 90
306 230-436 JUST BRUCE 19 (A Heath) Mrs E Heath 8-11-5 .... K Gaule —
307 6030,F0- PLEASURE CRUISE 319 (J Cresswell) J Cresswell 7-11-5 .... N T Egan (7) —
308 6-005 THE SECRET GREY 10 (C Bigley) D McCain 6-11-5 .... D Walsh 99
309 0T-5 VIRBAZAR 16 (Mrs E S-Osborne) J Smyth-Osbourne 10-11-5 .... G Upton —
310 0 WHOD OF THOUGHT IT 20 (Inhurst Farm Stables) P Cheesbrough 6-11-5 .... Mr C Vigors (5) —
311 3-2036P ELZOBA 72 (M Pipe) M Pipe 5-10-10 .... C Maude —

BETTING: 4-6 Elzoba, 4-1 Charlie Parrot, 8-1 Dannicus, 10-1 Just Bruce, 12-1 Virbazar, 20-1 Full Shilling, 25-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

CHARLIE PARROT 12½l 3rd of 10 to Alasvistic in novice hurdle at Taunton (2m 3f 110yd, good). DANNICUS 15l 3rd of 9 to Tompetoo in maiden hurdle at Chepstow (2m 110yd, soft) on penultimate start. FRANK KNOWS 18l 7th of 8 to Poly Amanshaa in novice handicap hurdle at Fakenham (2m, good). JUST BRUCE 11l 3rd of 20 to Hoh Warrior in novice hurdle here (2m 1f, good to soft) on penultimate start. THE SECRET GREY 43l 5th of 10 to Eudipe in novice chase at Stratford (2m 1f 110yd, good). VIRBAZAR 19½l 5th of 13 to Key Player in novice handicap chase at Folkestone (2m, good to soft).
Selection: CHARLIE PARROT

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 .... B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

3.30 TRIAL HANDICAP CHASE
(£5,481: 3m) (9 runners)

401 03-3111 ACT OF PARLIAMENT 19 (B,D,F,G) (J Perriss) K Bailey 9-12-0 .... Mr R Wakley (7) 94
402 233P2-0 MUGONI BEACH 13 (F,G,S) (J Ennis) M Pipe 12-11-12 .... Jamie Evans 98
403 3P-242U ROMANY CREEK 17 (V,CD,F,G,S) (A Thompson) J Pearce 8-11-11 .... N Williamson 95
404 82-0140 DON'T TELL THE WIFE 18 (D,G,S) (Elite Racing) C Egerton 11-11-11 .... M Berry (7) 95
405 2U5-121 SHINING LIGHT 13 (C,F,G,S) (Dealey Partners) D Nicholson 8-11-9 .... A Maguire 97
406 /03FR-0 THE GLOW 13 (B,G,S) (Mrs T Brown) Mrs J Pitman 9-11-8 .... R Farrant 90
407 40-P33P WELL BRIEFED 26 (D,F,G,S) (P Jones) R Buckler 10-11-5 .... B Powell 99
408 22-2221 MERLINS DREAM 107 (D,F,S) (W Wall) O Sherwood 8-11-3 .... J Osborne 92
409 011-606 MAKES ME GOOSEY 11 (B,G,S) (Allordstone Ltd) Mrs I McKie 9-10-5 .... L Harvey 90

BETTING: 9-4 Shining Light, 7-2 Merlins Dream, Act Of Parliament, 6-1 Mugoni Beach, Well Briefed, 8-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

ACT OF PARLIAMENT beat Dromhana 1l in 5-runner handicap chase at Wincanton (3m 1f 110yd, good to firm). DON'T TELL THE WIFE beat ROMANY CREEK (1lb better off) ¾l in 7-runner handicap chase at Fakenham (3m 110yd, good). SHINING LIGHT beat Rex To The Rescue 2½l in 7-runner handicap chase here (2m 4f 110yd, good to firm). WELL BRIEFED 10½l 3rd of 5 to Lord Of The West in handicap chase over course and distance (good to firm) on penultimate start. MERLINS DREAM beat ROMANY CREEK (8lb better off) 18l in 4-runner handicap chase at Huntingdon (3m, good). MAKES ME GOOSEY about 9l 6th of 10 to Givedome in handicap chase at Lingfield (3m, good).
Selection: ACT OF PARLIAMENT

4.00 SOMERBY JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE
(4-Y-O: £2,721: 2m) (21 runners)

501 13 NAME OF OUR FATHER 10 (D,F) (T Morris) P Bowen 11-5 .... R Johnson 83
502 1 POMME SECRET 15 (G) (Elite Racing) M Pipe 11-5 .... J Osborne 84
503 3 ANNA SOLEIL 18 (M St Quinton) O Sherwood 10-12 .... J A McCarthy 97
504 42P CIRCUS STAR 19 (BF) (Ringmasters) D Nicholson 10-12 .... A Maguire 99
505 -P COURTING DANGER 12 (B) (Miss E Sandolo) D Gandolfo 10-12 .... D Fortt (3) —
506 6 DAYDREAMER 18 (J Henwood) R Buckler 10-12 .... B Powell 68
507 EZANAK 166F (West Lockinge) Miss H Knight 10-12 .... J Culloty —
508 5 FENCER'S QUEST 22 (S Preston) T Forster 10-12 .... N Williamson —
509 004 FONT ROMEU 118 (Pond House Gold) M Pipe 10-12 .... Jamie Evans —
510 GEMINI DREAM 132F (A Ramson) R Johnson Houghton 10-12 .... R Bellamy —
511 63 MAGIC COMBINATION 11 (Mrs B Curley) B Curley 10-12 .... L Aspell (3) 92
512 60 MIGHTY KEEN 7 (M Banks) M Banks 10-12 .... D Skyrme —
513 242 NORTHERN FLEET 10 (BF) (Racing For Pleasure) Mrs A Perrett 10-12 .... C Maude 92
514 6 PRINCELY AFFAIR 29F (Mrs J Chesters) J Bradley 10-12 .... S Wynne —
515 2 SIBERIAN HENRY 69 (C Tateson) B Smart 10-12 .... I Lawrence 78
516 02030 STERLING FELLOW 13 (V) (P Moore) D Williams 10-12 .... M Clarke 77
517 0 THE ODDFELLOW 13 (H Ngan) N Bycroft 10-12 .... D Pears —
518 443F0 TOPAGLOW 18 (Mrs J Martin) P Dalton 10-12 .... B Fenton 76
519 CIRCLED 13F (D Boden) J A Harris 10-7 .... D Gallagher —
520 6 POETRY 61 (M Keogh) M Tompkins 10-7 .... J Railton —
521 5 PRECIOUS ISLAND 87 (P Dalton) P Dalton 10-7 .... J Supple —

BETTING: 5-4 Pomme Secret, 6-1 Circus Star, 7-1 Magic Combination, 8-1 Anna Soleil, Northern Fleet, Font Romeu, 12-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

NAME OF OUR FATHER beat Theme Arena 3l in 21-runner novice hurdle at Warwick (2m, good to firm) on penultimate start. POMME SECRET beat Avanti Express 4l in 12-runner maiden hurdle at Plumpton (2m 1f, good). ANNA SOLEIL 8¾l 3rd of 12 to Desert Mountain in maiden hurdle at Folkestone (2m 1f 110yd, soft) with DAYDREAMER about 12l 6th. MAGIC COMBINATION 8l 3rd of 10 to Three Farthings in maiden hurdle at Lingfield (2m 110yd, soft). NORTHERN FLEET 9l 2nd of 10 to Haysain in novice hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, good) with NAME OF OUR FATHER (3lb worse off) 6l 3rd. SIBERIAN HENRY 4l 2nd of 10 to Jelali in novice hurdle at Fontwell (2m 2f 110yd, good).
Selection: NORTHERN FLEET

4.30 OADBY HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,406: 2m) (8 runners)

601 3110-P0 SHERIFFMUIR 56 (S) (J Wadham) Mrs L Wadham 8-12-0 .... J F Titley 94
602 4/1124-1 MR MORIARTY 18F (D,F,G) (D Bowring) S Bowring 6-11-6 .... A Maguire 91
603 46/50-64 RIVER ISLAND 12 (D,S) (White Horse Partners) J Old 9-11-1 .... G Upton 93
604 234/321 KINTAVI 55 (D,G,S) (S Taberner) T Donnelly 7-10-13 .... T Eley 99
605 52/4P3-0 CHILL WIND 13 (F,G) (E Daley) N Bycroft 8-10-9 .... R Johnson —
606 5045-21 BEECHFIELD FLYER 13 (CD,S) (Mrs M Robertson) W Clay 6-10-8 .... G Tormey 91
607 U00-04 BOB'S PLOY 12 (V) (Mrs M Barwell) M Tompkins 5-10-4 .... N Williamson 90
608 5-0P350 PAST MASTER 4F (Northern Bloodstock) S Gollings 9-10-4 .... K Gaule 91

BETTING: 9-4 Mr Moriarty, 5-2 Bob's Ploy, 5-1 Kintavi, 7-1 River Island, 8-1 Beechfield Flyer, 10-1 Past Master, 14-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

MR MORIARTY beat Opera Fan 1½l in 19-runner handicap hurdle at Catterick (2m, good). KINTAVI beat Glowing Path 7l in 10-runner handicap hurdle at Bangor (2m 1f, good). CHILL WIND 4¾l 3rd of 11 to Stormy Coral in handicap chase at Carlisle (2m, good to soft) on penultimate start. BEECHFIELD FLYER beat Sheecky 7l in 8-runner selling handicap hurdle over course and distance (good to soft). BOB'S PLOY about 3l 4th of 12 to No More Hassle in handicap hurdle at Towcester (2m, good to soft). PAST MASTER about 8½l 5th of 14 to Last Try in novice handicap hurdle at Catterick (2m, good) on penultimate start.
Selection: BEECHFIELD FLYER (nap)

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
D Nicholson	14	48	29.2	J Titley	3	13	23.1
M Pipe	19	74	25.7	A Maguire	12	66	18.2
Miss H Knight	4	17	23.5	J Osborne	7	39	17.9
T Forster	4	22	18.2	N Williamson	6	38	15.8
O Sherwood	3	18	16.7	W Marston	9	64	14.1
Mrs J Pitman	7	52	13.5	T Eley	4	36	11.1

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Plumpton

Going: soft

1.50 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Kentavrus Way (M Batchelor, 14-1); 2, Summer Villa (9-2 jt-fav); 3, Derisbay (25-1). Minster's Madam 9-2 jt-fav. 15 ran. 13l, 4l. G L Moore. Tote: £26.60; £5.80, £1.90, £2.90. DF: £36.80. Trio: £79.60. CSF: £74.25. Tricast: £1,472.93.

2.20 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Supreme Illusion (V Smith, 50-1); 2, Hawanafa (4-1); 3, Petros Gem (50-1). Noblesse Oblige 15-8 fav (pu). 9 ran. NR: Code Red, Lord Ellangowan. 3½l, 3l. John Berry. Tote: £105.60; £8.20, £1.20, £5.70. DF: £213.20. CSF: £218.63.

2.50 (2m ch) 1, Coolteen Hero (W McFarland, 13-2); 2, Purbeck Cavalier (7-2 jt-fav); 3, Buckland Lad (4-1). Show Faith 7-2 jt-fav. 9 ran. 6l, 7l. R Alner. Tote: £9.30; £2.60, £1.50, £1.80. DF: £10.90. Trio: £15.90. CSF: £26.58.

3.20 (3m 1f 110yd ch) 1, High Learie (J A McCarthy, 14-1); 2, Easy Breezy (16-1); 3, Apatura Hati (10-1). Melnik 6-4 fav (pu). 8 ran. 2l, 5l. A Harvey. Tote: £27.50; £3.80, £2.00, £1.70. DF: £94.80. Trio: £133.40. CSF: £183.56.

3.50 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Bula Vogue (D O'Sullivan, 10-11 fav); 2, Maylin Magic (14-1); 3, Kishey (14-1). 11 ran. 5l, 4l. R Rowe. Tote: £2.00; £1.60, £2.60, £3.60. DF: £5.30. Trio: £82.20. CSF: £15.33.

4.20 (3m 1f 110yd ch) 1, Loyal Note (Mr S Andrews, 7-1); 2, Tritest Lad (7-2); 3, Sunny Mount (8-13 fav). 5 ran. 2½l, 3l. S Andrews. Tote: £8.30; £1.60, £1.80. DF: £7.70. CSF: £28.62.

4.50 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Mayb-Mayb (T J Murphy, 8-1); 2, Lajadhal (20-1); 3, Millmount (4-1). Yellow Dragon 5-2 fav. 8 ran. NR: Ben Bowden, First Class, Mirador. 9l, 4l. J Neville. Tote: £4.30; £1.10, £2.60, £3.30. DF: £79.20. Trio: £110.00. CSF: £90.01. Tricast: £484.02.

Placepot: £1,567.80. Quadpot: £57.20.

Hereford

Going: good to soft, good in places

2.00 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Ranger Sloane (R Farrant, 25-1); 2, Operetto (8-1); 3, Sylvester (40-1); 4, O My Love (8-1). Lady Magnum 5-1 jt-fav (pu). 16 ran. 5l, 1l. G Fierro. Tote: £38.60; £5.30, £2.50, £8.30, £2.10. DF: £106.60. CSF: £225.18. Tricast: £7,226.51.

2.30 (2m 3f ch) 1, Cardinal Rule (N Williamson, 4-1 fav); 2, Boots N All (16-1); 3, Chris's Glen (14-1); 4, Oliver Duckett (11-2). 16 ran. 4l, dist. Miss V Williams. Tote: £3.60; £2.10, £2.70, £2.80, £2.70. DF: £45.50. Trio: £150.60. CSF: £63.67. Tricast: £797.57.

3.00 (2m 3f 110yd hdle) 1, Halona (G Bradley, 11-10 fav; Richard Evans's nap and Private Handicapper's top rating); 2, Moonlighter (10-1); 3, Kosheen (6-1). 16 ran. 2l, 17l. C Brooks. Tote: £2.10; £1.60, £3.10, £2.20. DF: £8.90. Trio: £29.10. CSF: £13.20.

3.30 (2m ch) 1, Thats The Life (R Johnson, 14-1); 2, Dr Rocket (6-1); 3, Blazer Moriniere (16-1). Northern Singer 5-2 fav (pu). 14 ran. NR: Chain Shot, Monday Club. 3½l, 4l. T George. Tote: £17.80; £3.60, £1.90, £3.10. DF: £82.20. Trio: £847.30. CSF: £98.05. Tricast: £1,290.50.

4.00 (2m 3f 110yd hdle) 1, Caracol (T Dascombe, 8-1); 2, Anoso (14-1); 3, Nicky Wilde (10-1). Fairelaine 11-4 fav. 16 ran. 1¼l, 9l. J Neville. Tote: £9.10; £2.30, £4.50, £4.30. DF: £57.70. Trio: £128.50. CSF: £89.24.

4.30 (3m 1f 110yd ch) 1, Miss Millbrook (Mr E Williams, 4-1); 2, Cape Cottage (12-1); 3, Rusty Bridge (20-1). Celtic Abbey 9-4 fav (pu). 18 ran. 25l, 22l. D Goldsworthy. Tote: £7.30; £2.00, £6.90, £2.90. DF: £146.70. Trio: £173.80. CSF: £56.27.

5.00 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Added Dimension (X Aizpuru, 9-2); 2, Donidresstordinner (7-1); 3, Fontanays (2-1 fav). 8 ran. 4l, 2l. P Winkworth. Tote: £7.00; £1.40, £3.40, £1.80. DF: £33.30. CSF: £34.40. Tricast: £76.32.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £2,231.77 carried forward to Leicester today).

Placepot: £13,692.90 (0.5 winning tickets. Pool of £9,262.02 carried forward to Leicester today). Quadpot: £392.30.

Southwell

Going: standard

2.10 (1m 4f) 1, Kalamata (N Day, 3-1); 2, Dancing-Alone (33-1); 3, Maltun (Evens fav). 6 ran. 5l, 8l. J Glover. Tote: £3.90; £7.60, £8.00. DF: £75.90. CSF: £66.54.

2.40 (7f) 1, Sea Devil (L Charnock, 8-1); 2, Rambo Waltzer (7-4 fav); 3, Daniyah (15-2). 13 ran. NR: Bold Joker. 1¾l, 1½l. M Camacho. Tote: £10.90; £3.50, £1.50, £2.60. DF: £8.80. Trio: £12.50. CSF: £22.33.

3.10 (1m 3f) 1, Super High (F Norton, 7-1); 2, China Castle (4-5 fav); 3, Dancing Cavalier (8-1). 6 ran. Sh hd, 17l. P Howling. Tote: £13.50; £2.50, £1.40. DF: £8.60. CSF: £13.58.

3.40 (1m) 1, Three Arch Bridge (D McKeown, 11-4 fav); 2, Broughton's Pride (4-1); 3, Elpeme (8-1). 8 ran. 1¾l, 8l. M Johnston. Tote: £3.70; £1.70, £1.20, £2.00. DF: £5.20. CSF: £13.79. Tricast: £74.39.

4.10 (1m) 1†, Head Girl (D McKeown, 3-1); 1†, Rose Burton (10-11 fav). 4 ran. Dd-ht, 2½l. C Thornton, T Barron. Tote: Head Girl £2.30, Rose Burton £4.20. DF: £11.90. CSF: Head Girl, Rose Burton £9.15; Rose Burton, Head Girl £11.93.

4.40 (6f) 1, V I P Charlie (S Sanders, 7-4 fav); 2, Pet Express (2-1); 3, Windborn (9-1). 7 ran. 1½l, ½l. J Jenkins. Tote: £2.90; £1.60, £1.80. DF: £6.50. CSF: £5.97.

Placepot: £222.00. Quadpot: £14.10.

AYR

THUNDERER

1.40 Political Tower. 2.10 Star Selection. 2.40 Military Academy. 3.10 D'Arblay Street. 3.40 Mr Knitwit. 4.10 One For The Pot. 4.40 Merry Masquerade.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.10 NICHOLAS PLANT.

GOING: SOFT — SIS

1.40 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,627: 2m) (11 runners)

1 1135 POLITICAL TOWER 17 (F,G,S) R Nixon 10-11-10 .... B Storey 99
2 -F54 FILS DE CRESSON 15 J Adam 7-11-10 .... M Moloney 95
3 0504 SEGALA 53 J J O'Neill 6-11-4 .... P Carberry 98
4 3305 BOWCLIFFE 19 Mrs A Naughton 6-11-3 .... M Foster 93
5 3356 TEEJAY'N'AITCH 15 J Goldie 5-11-3 .... G Cahill 97
6 5-35 BILL'S PRIDE 71 P Monteith 8-11-3 .... A Dobbin 94
7 0F0 JOE SHAW 10 Mrs M Reveley 4-11-0 .... P Niven 94
8 60-6 NANCYS CHOICE 14 Mrs N Hope 7-11-0 .... J Burke 92
9 0P-0 SOLSGIRTH 25 J Barclay 6-10-8 .... A Thornton 94
10 PP6/ RUNNING GREEN 18F D Moffatt 6-10-1 .... D J Moffatt —
11 0065 OBVIOUS RISK 3 E Caine 6-10-0 .... Tristan Davidson (7) 85

5-2 Joe Shaw, 3-1 Fils De Cresson, 6-1 Nancys Choice, 8-1 others.

2.10 RIVER DOON HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,777: 2m) (5)

1 00-1 MONICA'S CHOICE 28 (D,G) Mrs M Reveley 6-11-12 .... P Niven —
2 -504 COMMON SOUND 17 (D,S) J Barclay 6-11-6 .... A Thornton 99
3 6310 STAR SELECTION 24 (BF,S) J Mackie 6-10-7 .... E Husband (3) 98
4 611- MERRY MERMAID 293 (D,S) B Mactaggart 7-10-6 .... B Storey 90
5 003- OUR ROBERT 25F (D,S) J Fitzgerald 5-10-5 .... P Carberry 90

6-4 Monica's Choice, 3-1 Merry Mermaid, 9-2 Common Sound, 5-1 others.

2.40 RIVER CREE NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,583: 2m 6f) (14)

1 0361 ADIB 17 (C,G,S) G Moore 7-12-0 .... N Bentley 78
2 3/13 MILITARY ACADEMY 73 (G) G Richards 8-12-0 .... P Carberry 99
3 03-4 ALLERBANK 15 Mrs J Storey 6-11-7 .... Mr C Storey 70
4 0 BORDER IMAGE 7 F Murtagh 6-11-7 .... A Roche —
5 3-P5 DRAKEWRATH 71 (G) R Bartlett 7-11-7 .... D Parker 81
6 FAYETTE COUNTY J J O'Neill 6-11-7 .... A Thornton —
7 -030 HARFDECENT 21 Mrs M Reveley 6-11-7 .... P Niven —
8 0 ROYAL SPRUCE 17 G Moore 6-11-7 .... J Callaghan —
9 5004 SUNNY LEITH 15 P Monteith 6-11-7 .... A Dobbin 66
10 1380 DOUBLE DASH 25 (F) D Moffatt 4-11-3 .... D J Moffatt —
11 2-20 CHERRY DEE 19 P Beaumont 6-11-2 .... B Grattan (5) 56
12 /P-P JUST EVE 254P Mrs D Thomson 10-11-2 .... T Reed —
13 0400 MEADOWLECK 3 W Young 8-11-2 .... G Cahill 68
14 -5F0 NAWTINOOKEY 53 (B) M Todhunter 7-11-2 .... G Lee (3) 50

6-4 Military Academy, 7-2 Adib, 8-1 Allerbank, 10-1 Sunny Leith, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: G Richards, 47 winners from 187 runners, 25.1%; J Fitzgerald, 4 from 16, 25.0%; Mrs M Reveley, 37 from 157, 23.6%; J J O'Neill, 20 from 103, 19.4%; G Moore, 10 from 66, 15.2%.

JOCKEYS: R Supple, 8 winners from 30 rides, 26.7%; A Roche, 10 from 42, 23.8%; P Niven, 34 from 147, 23.1%; A Dobbin, 31 from 156, 19.9%; P Cahill, 11 from 66, 16.7%; B Storey, 26 from 174, 14.9%.

3.10 RIVER GIRVAN NOVICES CHASE
(£3,704: 3m 3f 110yd) (11)

1 25U1 D'ARBLAY STREET 5 (G,S) W Kemp 8-11-3 .... P Carberry 80
2 1P5F NAUGHTY FUTURE 5 (C,G,S) J J O'Neill 8-11-3 .... R Supple 99
3 6P-6 ABBEY LAMP 15 (G) Miss L Russell 8-10-10 .... A Thornton —
4 6P05 BRIGHT DESTINY 15 (V) J Goldie 6-10-10 .... G Cahill 72
5 0403 CLONROCHE LUCKY 19 J Wade 7-10-10 .... K Jones —
6 42-3 JUDICIOUS CAPTAIN 15 (S) Mrs J Storey 10-10-10 .... Mr C Storey 90
7 0-52 NOOSA SOUND 15 L Lungo 7-10-10 .... B Storey 83
8 0006 POCAIRE GAOITHE 8 W Storey 7-10-10 .... R McGrath (5) —
9 F0U6 QUIXALL CROSSETT 3 E Caine 12-10-10 .... Tristan Davidson (7) 54
10 -006 SELDOM BUT SEVERE 7 E Eliott 7-10-10 .... G F Ryan (5) 68
11 2/4P SPRINGHILL QUAY 54 (BF,G) G Richards 8-10-10 .... A Dobbin —

5-2 D'Arblay Street, 7-2 Judicious Captain, 4-1 Noosa Sound, Naughty Future, 10-1 Springhill Quay, 14-1 Bright Destiny, 16-1 others.

3.40 RIVER TIG NOVICES CHASE
(£3,069: 2m 5f 110yd) (5)

1 2F23 BALLYLINE 17 (G) W Kemp 6-11-11 .... A S Smith 76
2 5-10 LIEN DE FAMILLE 24 (F,S) J Quinn 7-11-11 .... P Niven 73
3 -421 MR KNITWIT 15 (C,G) P Monteith 10-11-11 .... A Dobbin 94
4 6-P3 COLONEL IN CHIEF 10 (S) G Richards 7-11-4 .... P Carberry 99
5 P-06 DESPERATE DAYS 21 F Kirby 8-11-4 .... W Dwan 63

5-4 Mr Knitwit, 2-1 Colonel In Chief, 4-1 Lien De Famille, 6-1 Ballyline, 50-1 Desperate Days.

4.10 LOCH ENOCH HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,163: 2m) (9)

1 1-11 NETHERBY SAID 21 (F,G) P Beaumont 7-12-0 .... R Supple 90
2 P-35 BLAZING TRAIL 15 (D,S) Miss L Russell 9-11-13 .... A Thornton —
3 6444 ONE FOR THE POT 25 (CD,F,G,S) Mrs A Naughton 12-11-10 .... M Foster 96
4 55U1 NICHOLAS PLANT 3 (C,F,S) J Goldie 8-11-4 (7ex) .... G Cahill 99
5 4-13 RALLEGIO 15 (G,S) P Monteith 8-11-0 .... A Dobbin 93
6 1P/0 EMERALD SEA 15 (S) J Barclay 10-10-10 .... B Storey —
7 -506 SUPER SANDY 28 (D,S) F Walton 10-10-2 .... K Johnson 89
8 -PF4 FUNNY OLD GAME 17 (C,S) D McCune 10-10-0 .... Michael Brennan (3) 89
9 5RP5 MONAUGHTY MAN 3 (C,S) E Caine 11-10-0 .... M Moloney —

5-4 Netherby Said, 7-2 Rallegio, 9-2 Nicholas Plant, 6-1 One For The Pot, 10-1 Blazing Trail, Funny Old Game, 16-1 others.

4.40 RIVER AYR MAIDEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE
(£1,380: 2m) (12)

1 CHAN MOVE W Smith 5-11-8 .... S Taylor (5) —
2 EASBY BLUE S Kettlewell 5-11-8 .... Mr C Bonner (3) —
3 4 JUST NED 14 J Halcane 6-11-8 .... N Horrocks (7) —
4 34 MERRY MASQUERADE 19 Mrs M Reveley 6-11-8 .... G Lee (3) —
5 NO GIMMICKS J Fitzgerald 5-11-8 .... F Leahy (3) —
6 PRIME EXAMPLE M Todhunter 6-11-8 .... Michael Brennan (3) —
7 3 DELIGHTFOOL 14 R Nixon 6-11-3 .... G Cahill —
8 LINWOOD G Richards 6-11-3 .... Mr R Hale —
9 YOUNG SEMELE J Adam 5-11-3 .... Mr C Storey —
10 0 CHIEF CHIPPIE 14 W Kemp 4-10-12 .... S Haworth (7) —
11 COOL KEVIN Mrs M Kendall 4-10-12 .... Mrs M Kendall —
12 6 CHAMPS-GIRL 24 B Murray 4-10-7 .... E Callaghan (3) —

2-1 Merry Masquerade, 4-1 Just Ned, 9-2 Linwood, 5-1 No Gimmicks, Delightfool, 12-1 Easby Blue, 16-1 others.

Blinkered first time

LEICESTER: 2.30 Apache Park, High Low, Ashley House. 4.00 Courting Danger. LINGFIELD PARK: 2.20 Chateauherault.

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

1.50 Sweet Wilhelmina. 2.20 As-Is. 2.50 ALARICO (nap). 3.20 Roffey Spinney. 3.50 Wottashambles. 4.20 Scissor Ridge.

Newmarket Correspondent: 3.20 Blues Magic. 3.50 Broughtons Formula. 4.20 PRINCELY SOUND (nap).

GOING: STANDARD — SIS

DRAW: 6F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

1.50 HURST POINT LIMITED STAKES
(£2,462: 1m) (9 runners)

1 -612 CHADLEIGH LANE 25 (D,G) A Mulholland 5-9-4 .... D Sweeney (5) 2
2 3-40 FATHER DAN 7 (C,F,G) Miss G Kelleway 8-9-1 .... D Holland 8
3 -122 MILOS 5 (C,F,G) G L Moore 6-9-1 .... S Whitworth 1
4 0-02 KI CHI SAGA 33 (G,S) M Madgwick 5-8-12 .... A Clark 3
5 -484 LE SPORT 11 (B,D,G) D Nicholls 4-8-12 .... Iona Wands (7) 7
6 0020 SPENCER'S REVENGE 7 (CD,BF,F,G) P Butler 8-8-12 .... G Bardwell 5
7 40-3 WHATEVER'S RIGHT 19 (CD,F,G) M Usher 8-8-12 .... S Sanders 6
8 500- WHITLEY GRANGE BOY 260 J Eyre 4-8-12 .... S Buckley (7) 4
9 020- SWEET WILHELMINA 84 (CD,G) Lord Huntingdon 4-8-9 .... D Harrison 9

3-1 Le Sport, 4-1 Milos, 9-2 Sweet Wilhelmina, 5-1 Father Dan, 7-1 others.

2.20 DUNGENESS POINT CLAIMING STAKES
(3-Y-O: £2,700: 1m 2f) (4)

1 -123 CHATEAUHERAULT 14 (V,CD,BF,G) P Haslam 9-3 .... S Drowne 4
2 0- SAXONBURY 132 G L Moore 9-3 .... S Sanders 1
3 -512 AS-IS 17 (C,BF,G) M Johnston 8-9 .... D Holland 3
4 -044 LEG BEFORUM 12 L Montague Hall 8-9 .... W Ryan 2

11-8 Chateauherault, 6-4 As-Is, 6-1 Saxonbury, Leg Beforum.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: V Soane, 3 winners from 6 runners, 50.0%; M Bell, 7 from 31, 22.6%; Lord Huntingdon, 40 from 181, 22.1%; D Nicholls, 9 from 41, 22.0%; L Montague Hall, 11 from 51, 21.6%.

JOCKEYS: D Holland, 26 winners from 109 rides, 23.9%; S Whitworth, 31 from 162, 19.1%; W Ryan, 17 from 96, 17.7%; D Harrison, 30 from 215, 14.0%; A Culhane, 5 from 36, 13.9%.

2.50 BISHOPS ROCK CONDITIONS STAKES
(£3,306: 1m 2f) (5)

1 1-12 STEAMROLLER STANLY 21 (C,F,G) C Cyzer 4-10-1 .... D Biggs 4
2 00-1 ALARICO 14 (CD,G) I Wildams 4-9-12 .... D Holland 3
3 010- DARK AGE 64J (D,G) R Akehurst 4-9-12 .... S Sanders 5
4 650- BRILLIANT RED 11J (F) P Hedger 4-9-7 .... M Richards 1
5 13-2 DOUBLE ESPRESSO 35 (C,BF,G) M Johnston 3-8-2 .... T Williams 2

2-1 Double Espresso, 9-4 Steamroller Stanly, 3-1 Alarico, 6-1 Dark Age, 8-1 Brilliant Red.

3.20 DURLSTON HEAD MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES
(3-Y-O: £2,395: 6f) (5)

1 2 BLUES MAGIC 24 (BF) M Bell 9-0 .... G Faulkner (5) 2
2 00-4 BON GUEST 11 T Naughton 9-0 .... D Holland 5
3 02-3 CASTLE ASHBY JACK 8 (B) P Howling 9-0 .... F Norton 3
4 30-3 ROFFEY SPINNEY 19 R Hannon 9-0 .... R Perham 4
5 00-5 LUCY OF ARABIA 19 J Sheehan 8-9 .... A Daly (5) 1

6-4 Roffey Spinney, 7-4 Blues Magic, 5-1 Bon Guest, 7-1 Castle Ashby Jack, 10-1 Lucy Of Arabia.

3.50 EDDYSTONE HANDICAP
(£2,417: 2m) (8)

1 -131 SUPREME STAR 12 (B,C,F,G) P Hedger 6-10-0 .... N Varley (3) 2
2 1-21 WOTTASHAMBLES 10 (CD,F) L Montague Hall 6-9-13 .... D Holland 8
3 3-36 GUEST ALLIANCE 26 (CD,G) G L Moore 5-9-8 .... Candy Morris 4
4 2-61 BROUGHTONS FORMULA 21 (B,CD,F,G) W Musson 7-9-5 .... D R McCabe 6
5 6-03 COLERIDGE 8 (B,CD,F,G,S) J Sheehan 9-9-2 .... A Clark 1
6 60-5 BLUE AND ROYAL 19 V Soane 5-7-13 .... N Adams 3
7 00/0 PYRRHIC DANCE 7 M Haynes 7-7-12 .... G Bardwell 7
8 5/45 CLASSIC ACCOUNT 15 (C,G,S) J Eyre 9-7-10 .... R Ffrench (7) 5

9-4 Wottashambles, 5-2 Broughtons Formula, 4-1 Supreme Star, 5-1 Guest Alliance, 8-1 Coleridge, 16-1 Classic Account.

4.20 NEEDLES HANDICAP
(£3,323: 6f) (8)

1 06-1 PAGEBOY 35 (CD,F,G) P Haslam 8-10-0 .... S Drowne 1
2 0-61 ROBO MAGIC 12 (CD,F,G) L Montague Hall 5-9-12 .... D Holland 7
3 1-65 MR FROSTY 10 (C,D,G) W Jarvis 5-9-11 .... S Sanders 8
4 -243 SCISSOR RIDGE 14 (CD,F,G) J Bridger 5-9-9 .... D Harrison 5
5 000- PRINCELY SOUND 139 (CD,G) M Bell 4-9-9 .... W Ryan 3
6 3150 KRYSTAL MAX 10 (CD,F,G) J Cullinan 4-9-4 .... Victoria Appleby (7) 2
7 4431 APOLLO RED 7 (CD,F,G,S) G L Moore 8-9-1 (7ex) .... Candy Morris 6
8 3-01 SQUIRE CORRIE 6 (F,G) D Chapman 5-8-13 (7ex) .... A Culhane 4

3-1 Pageboy, 4-1 Squire Corrie, 5-1 Apollo Red, Scissor Ridge, 6-1 Robo Magic, 7-1 Mr Frosty, 8-1 others.

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Beaumont points King Pin at Chepstow

KING PIN, trained near York by Peter Beaumont, tackles the Persian War Premier Novices' Hurdle at Chepstow on Saturday. "King Pin wants a run so he'll probably go," Beaumont said, "but we wouldn't want extremes of going." King Pin has been an impressive winner of his last two starts.

The Beaumont-trained Young Kenny landed the grade two Prestige Novices' Hurdle at the course earlier this month and the Brandsby handler holds King Pin in similar regard. "They are both nice young horses," he said. "Young Kenny is a stayer but King Pin has plenty of speed."

If Napoleon had better information, he might not have met his Waterloo. How goes the battle?

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هكذا من الاصل

Brazilians apply gentle touch to cool tempers

Toshack: frustrated

ROB HUGHES

Overseas Football

Those referees who have nothing worse to fear than being pilloried in the dulcet tones of the Rt Hon David Mellor on a Saturday night live in such a sheltered world. In Brazil, the São Paulo state league, which began last weekend, is a ferment where beauty vies with break-leg thuggery and where it is not unknown for a referee to receive a bribe or a bullet.

So cantankerous have things become that, seeking a referee above suspicion, the Brazilians last Saturday imported one from Canada. Sonia Denoncourt, one of 56 international women referees from 39 countries on the approved Fifa list, pleased some of the people some of the time.

"Her presence was very important," Lindonice de Brito, the president of São José, said after they had drawn 1-1 against Palmeiras, the defending state champions. Sebastião Lapola, the Palmeiras director, was not so content. "The refereeing was terrible," he and his players said. Denoncourt had disallowed a Palmeiras goal: worse, she had sent off Cafú, the Palmeiras and sometime Brazil defender.

Why the difference between the way that Palmeiras and São José viewed this innovative attempt to take the heat out of local refereeing? Lindonice de Brito is a woman. Neutral observers believed that Denoncourt, 32, was "at least as good as the Brazilian male referees".

Denoncourt may have sorted out the Brazilians; John Toshack could not. His resignation from Deportivo La Coruña, the Spanish club, on Sunday night involved elements of the uncontrollable Brazilian temperament. First Bebeto, the World Cup goalscorer, fell out of love with football in Europe and defected back home to Brazil. Then, in a match against Athletic Bilbao two weeks ago, Toshack was abused by large sections of the crowd when he substituted Rivaldo, the Brazilian midfield player. Toshack responded by shouting obscenities in kind. Finally, Flavio Conceicão, yet another Brazilian to play in Deportivo's midfield, failed to turn up for a Spanish Cup tie.

Of course, Brazilian reliability is sometimes less glittering than the national talent for football — as they know on Teesside — but at least Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, has full and financial support from his chairman. Toshack never had that and his year and a half in La Coruña was torrid from the start. The directors, under Augusto Cesar Lendoiro, the club president, were a law unto themselves, going out and buying players, inflicting disparate talents on the coach.

A week ago Lendoiro had a communiqué from Fifa, the game's world governing body. It told him that he was suspended from all footballing activity until August 1998, his punishment for breaking the Fifa statute that bars any club from taking disputes with its national association to court.

Lendoiro had not only taken the Spanish football association to a civil court, but also beaten it, obtaining an injunction against a one-game home ban after a referee was hit by a coin thrown from the crowd. He was further fined SwFr10,000 (about £50,000) for making "defamatory remarks" concerning Fifa and the Spanish FA.

Bobby Robson is also feeling the Spanish heat. Less than a week ago, his Barcelona side eliminated Real Madrid from the Spanish Cup — the turning point, he might fleetingly have felt — but, on Sunday, in the stadium of Español, Barcelona's neighbour, all that could go wrong for Robson did.

Ronaldo, his Brazilian matchwinner, was, for once, contained. Vítor Baía, his Portuguese goalkeeper, was a bag of nerves and was twice punished by penalties from Florin Raduciouiu, the Romanian who was given so little opportunity to score for West Ham United. The first penalty was disputable, the second definitely not.

In addition, Luís Figo, another Robson import from Portugal, was sent off for fighting as the second half began and Sergi, the diminutive, combative full back, was shown the red card towards the end, a colour more than earned by his persistent fouling, the last of which was an inexcusable jump-tackle.

Apparently, Robson can still find a home from home as Newcastle United's guardian of youth football. Dealing with foreign temperamanent may be woman's work, but it is driving the British out.

McStay can be shining light for Scotland in Monaco

FROM KEVIN MCCARRA IN MONTE CARLO

THE influence of Estonia is to be felt all across the planet. Yesterday, in compliance with instructions from Fifa, the world governing body, the floodlights were tested at the Louis II Stadium here, where Estonia, from the Baltics, will meet Scotland in a World Cup group four qualifying match tonight.

The procedure, which will now be part of standard practice before all Fifa international fixtures, became necessary because of the dispute over floodlighting that prevented this game from going ahead in Tallinn in October. After all the arguments, we are now about to discover whether the contest on the field is also capable of lighting up the evening.

For one Scotland player, this occasion must feel like an emergence from gloom into sunshine. Paul McStay will win his 74th cap against Estonia, but he admits that he had to survive a period of anxiety when he wondered if he would ever again take part in any form of football match.

In the summer McStay required surgery on a troublesome ankle, but the operation had damaging effects that kept him out of the Celtic team for four months. There have been other difficulties in recent years and if McStay, 32, had possessed the durability to equal his ability, he might have bettered Kenny Dalglish's record of 102 appearances for Scotland.

McStay, however, is flooded by gratitude each time he discovers that there will be another 90 minutes of life for his career. "I could never have taken this for granted," McStay said, "because, while I was missing, Scotland had a settled team that did very well at Euro 96 and in these World Cup qualifiers."

It is not nostalgia that makes Craig Brown, the national team manager, beckon him back to action. Against an Estonia side that will be rugged and dogged, the scrupulous passing of McStay is required to ensure that Scotland remain methodical.

"We can't just pump crosses in for Duncan Ferguson," Brown said. "They have big men in defence. What we need is quick passing and, in Paul McStay, Gary McAllister and John Collins, we have a midfield that any country would envy. If our attitude is right, then only bad luck or bad finishing could stop us from winning this match."

That confidence is bolstered by the presence of Collins, who could stroll from his apartment to the stadium were it not for the fact that he is obliged to dwell with the rest of the team in their hotel. Last year he left Celtic to join AS Monaco, whose ground is being used for the game tonight.

"He must be missing our Barrowfields training ground," McStay, his former team-mate, said whimsically as he looked out at streets full of sports cars and a bay that shelters expensive yachts.

Collins has also become a sleek presence here, refining his understanding of the game and influencing a Monaco team that is expected to win the French championship.

He appreciates that Estonia will apply themselves to the prevention of flowing football, but it is likely that Collins and the other Scotland midfield players will have an extra forward in front of them to at least increase the options. For this match, Scotland are expected to be bolder than usual and field three men in attack, with Kevin Gallacher joining Ferguson and John McGinlay. Brown's side lead group four and, against Estonia, their assertiveness should not falter.

ESTONIA (probable: 4-1-4-1): M Poom (Flora) — U Kirs (Flora), S Hohlov-Simson (Flora), M Lemsalu (FSV Mainz 05), G Oleek (Lelle SK) — M Reim (Flora) — A Oper (Flora); M Rooba (Flora), A Arbeiter (Lelle SK), M Kristal (Flora) — I Zelinski (Flora).

SCOTLAND (probable: 4-3-3): A Goram (Rangers) — J McNamara (Celtic), C Hendry (Blackburn Rovers), C Calderwood (Tottenham Hotspur), T Boyd (Celtic) — P McStay (Celtic), G McAllister (Coventry City), J Collins (AS Monaco) — K Gallacher (Blackburn Rovers), D Ferguson (Everton), J McGinlay (Bolton Wanderers).

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Scotland	3	2	1	0	3	0	7
Austria	3	2	1	0	3	1	7
Sweden	4	2	0	2	7	4	6
Belarus	4	1	1	2	3	7	4
Estonia	2	1	0	1	1	1	3
Latvia	4	0	1	3	3	7	1

RESULTS: Sweden 5 Belarus 1; Austria 0 Scotland 0; Belarus 1 Estonia 0; Latvia 1 Sweden 2; Latvia 0 Scotland 2; Estonia 1 Belarus 0; Belarus 1 Latvia 1; Sweden 0 Austria 1; Austria 2 Latvia 1; Scotland 1 Sweden 0.

TODAY: Estonia v Scotland (in Monaco).

FOOTBALL

Beckham relishes becoming name in his own right

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

DAVID BECKHAM still treasures a battered autograph book that contains, among others, the signatures of Glenn Hoddle, Bryan Robson and Paul Gascoigne. It is a touching reminder of his not-so-distant youth, of days spent pestering his teenage idols, and a vivid indication of how swiftly he has progressed from goggle-eyed schoolboy to international footballer.

Tomorrow, at Wembley, Beckham will play for Hoddle, the England coach, and probably alongside Gascoigne against Italy in a World Cup group two qualifying match. Yet, as the nation expects victory, and Hoddle expects another vibrant display, he shows few signs of being burdened by such an occasion.

Though Beckham, 21, was but a glint in the eye of Terry Venables, the former England coach, and did not feature during the European championship last summer, he has played in Hoddle's three matches in charge. He is one of the first names on the teamsheet of Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, and has amassed 11 goals this season with a spectacular mix of power, spin and swerve.

A far cry, perhaps, from his early appearances for the 4th Chingford Cubs, or even Preston North End on loan, but nothing to get too excited about. "I'm still a little bit surprised by it all," Beckham said yesterday. "United bought several new players during the close-season and, with such a big squad, I wondered if I would get as many games as I had done previously.

"I quite enjoy all the attention and, if you're in the public eye, you've got to live with it, you've got to handle it. I don't think my character has changed much, I'm still quite quiet on and off the pitch. I've never really suffered from nerves and, even now, I feel I can cope with most things."

They include being recognised in the streets of Manchester — having to give, not ask for, autographs — and being stalked by the paparazzi when visiting restaurants. His life, though, remains relatively stable. "I'm on a long-term contract with United and going nowhere," he said. "No one can predict the future and I suppose, if I had an offer from abroad at some stage, I'd have to think about it."

Hoddle will use Beckham in a right-sided wing-back role, complementing Gascoigne and feeding on the possession created by Batty and, if he is fit, Ince. Later on, as his international career takes shape, he will be entrusted with more responsibility in central midfield.

"Perhaps when he has 15 or so caps, 18 months down the line, he will be ready to move into the middle," Hoddle said. "That's for the long-term, not now; he's not ready for all that responsibility, he doesn't need that yet. I could use him there occasionally, as a one-off, but he's still learning, he's still a boy."

Gascoigne is gradually recovering from an injured ankle that, ten days ago, was in plaster. Hoddle was similarly upbeat about the chances of David Seaman, the goalkeeper, and Alan Shearer, the captain, playing against Italy, but was less optimistic about Tony Adams, Robert Lee and Ince.

"We have three who are looking good and three not so good," he said. "You can't go into a game risking six players, that would be foolish. You can't afford to risk any more than two. At the moment it's still very much a case of having to wait and see."

Beckham is a definite starter. He might have been rejected, at 13, by England schoolboys — the powers that be said that he was too small — but he is already an integral part of Hoddle's World Cup thinking, now and for possibly many years to come.

"He is very level-headed and takes everything in his stride," Hoddle said. "Watching him play this season has been a real bonus for us and, if can maintain that level of performance, even amid all the hype, he has a massive future."

MARC ASPLAND

England expects: Beckham is comfortable in dealing with his media inquisition at Bisham Abbey yesterday

Crossley heading cast of understudies

BY PETER BALL

THERE will be some unfamiliar faces on view when Wales play Ireland at the National Stadium tonight. Both sides will have a new goalkeeper, with Mark Crossley making his debut for Wales and Keith Branagan for Ireland.

Having flirted with Scotland — but been jilted — Crossley, of Nottingham Forest, gets his chance because Neville Southall elected to miss this game to give Bobby Gould, the Wales manager, the opportunity to look at his understudies. Andy Marriott is needed by Wrexham, so Crossley gets the nod.

His good fortune extended to the fact that Ireland will be without their first-choice forward line, as O'Neill and Quinn are injured. Even the option of using Moore, the Middlesbrough midfield player, in attack has been denied to Mick McCarthy, the Ireland manager, because of an ankle injury. However, with Melville, Jenkins and Page all missing, Wales have had to make three changes in their back line. Karl Ready wins his first cap in central defence.

Branagan will have a relatively solid and experienced defence in front of him for his first appearance for Ireland. The loss of Phil Babb because of a knee injury is tempered by the return of Paul McGrath, who will bring authority and presence to the Ireland defence. Branagan may be glad of it. Whatever their deficiencies elsewhere, Wales's forward pairing of Hartson and Hughes promises Branagan, of Bolton Wanderers, a physical test on his debut.

With a group seven World Cup qualifying match against Belgium approaching, Gould will probably be seeking the advice of Bryan Hamilton, the Northern Ireland manager, whose side play Belgium at Windsor Park tonight. Hamilton will delay naming his side because of injuries to several key players. Quinn, the Blackpool forward, is likely to keep his place and partner Gillespie up front.

WALES: M Crossley, K Ready, G Speed, K Symons, J Robinson, B Horne, V Jones, M Pembridge, A Legg, J Hartson, M Hughes.

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FOOTBALL RESULTS

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): All-Star Game: East 132 West 120

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: London Towers 76 Chester 75.

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
London	21	17	4	1853	1642	34
Sheffield	22	17	5	1954	1895	34
Chester	23	16	7	1982	1843	32
Birmingham	22	15	7	1901	1790	30
Leopards	22	15	7	2039	1934	30
Manchester	23	13	10	1782	1726	26
Newcastle	23	13	10	2055	2013	26
Derby	24	11	13	2097	2109	22
Leicester	21	11	10	1785	1735	22
Thames Valley	22	7	15	2018	2051	14
Wolving	24	7	17	1938	2176	14
Crystal Palace	23	4	19	1722	1939	8
Hemel	24	1	23	2008	2541	2

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: First division: Brixton 60 Guildford 72; Plymouth 108 Bury and Bolton 81. Second division: London 76 South Bank 58; Swindon 68 Derby 92; Thames Valley 74 Solihull 85.

BIATHLON

OSRBLIE, Slovakia: World championship: Men 20km): 1, R Gross (Ger) 52:mm 04 5sec; 2, O Ryschenkov (Biela) 52:40 1; 3, L Gredler (Austria) 53:13 0; 4, S Pikov (Russ) 53:15.9; 5, S Fischer (Ger) 53:49.5. Women's relay (4 x 7.5km): 1, Germany 1hr 28min 38.9sec; 2, Norway 1:30:06 7; 3, Russia 1:30:09.7; 4, France 1:31:19.2; 5, Ukraine 1:31:58 1.

FOOTBALL

SPANISH LEAGUE: Español 2 Barcelona 0; Tenerife 2 Logrones 0.

FRENCH CUP: Second round: Montpellier 2 Sochaux 0; Wasquehal 1 Guingamp 3.

FA UMBRO TROPHY: Third round draw: Colwyn Bay v St Leonards Stamcroft; Ashton United v Bromsgrove Rovers or Hyde United; Stevenage Borough v Welling United or Guisley; Gloucester City v Runcorn; Salisbury City or Dorchester Town v St Albans City or Woking; Altrincham v Bishop Auckland; Morecambe v Dagenham and Redbridge; Heybridge Swifts v Kidderminster Harriers or Emley

☐ Ties to be played on March 1.

SCHOOLS MATCH: Royal Hospital, Holbrook 1 Bedford Modern 1.

FREESTYLE SKIING

NAGANO, Japan: World championships: Men's moguls: Final: 1, J-L Brassard (Can) 27 52pts; 2, S Rochon (Can) 26.00; 3, J Ronnback (Swe) 25 43; 4, F Dugier (Fr) 25.22; 5, T Hemery (Fr) 24 97. Women's moguls: Final: 1, C Gay (Fr) 24.8pts; 2, D Weinbrecht (US) 24 60; 3, T Mittermayer (Ger) 24.20; 4, A Battaile (US) 24.11; 5, K Traa (Nor) 23.39. Men's aerials: Final: 1, N Fontaine (Can) 254.96pts; 2, E Bergoust (US) 245 63; 3, A Capeck (Can) 235.39; 4, D Belhumeur (Can) 234.01; 5, C Rijavec (Austria) 232.91. Women's aerials: Final: 1, K Marshall (Aus) 197.82pts; 2, M Rohrbach (Switz) 177.84; 3, V Brenner (Can) 176.79; 4, S Hudnbusch (Austria) 172.04; 5, N Orekhova (Russ) 170.43.

GOLF

LA JOLLA: Buick International: Final scores (US unless stated): 275: M O'Meara 67, 68, 71, 71. 277: D Hammond 73, 67, 68, 69; D Ogrin 67, 71, 70, 69; D Waldorf 70, 66, 72, 69; L Janzen 71, 65, 71, 70; J Parnevik (Swe) 70, 66, 69, 72; C Stadler 67, 68, 70, 72; M Hulbert 68, 69, 67, 73. Other scores: 281: A Lyle (GB) 71, 68, 72, 70. 286: H Clark (GB) 69, 72, 73, 72.

WEST PALM BEACH, Florida: LPGA National Pro Am: Final scores (US unless stated): 271: K Robbins 66, 69, 69, 67 (won at second extra hole); E Klein 71, 67, 70, 63. 275: C Johnson 68, 73, 67, 67. 276: K Golden 67, 71, 70, 68. 279: V Goetze 70, 69, 68, 72; J Geddes 73, 64, 69, 73. Other scores: 281: P Bradley 70, 72, 69, 70; D Pepper 69, 68, 74, 70; V Skinner 68, 70, 74, 70. 283: K Marshall (GB) 73, 71, 71, 68. 286: L Neumann (Swe) 71, 73, 74, 68; E Dahllof (Swe) 71, 73, 72, 70; C Nilsmark (Swe) 72, 71, 72, 71; A Nicholas (GB) 71, 73, 70, 72; J Crafter (Aus) 69, 71, 74, 72. 294: J Stephenson (Aus) 71, 76, 74, 73. 302: S Maynor (GB) 74, 73, 74, 81.

NAPLES, Florida: LG Championship: Final scores (US unless stated): 201: H Irwin 70, 66, 65. 202: B Murphy 68, 69, 65. 204: V Fernandez 67, 69, 68. 205: D Graham (Aus) 67, 71, 67; J Kiefer 68, 68, 69. Other scores: 210: L Trevino (US) 74, 69, 67; G Marsh (Aus) 69, 71, 70. 211: J Jacobs (GB) 72, 70, 69; I Aoki (Japan) 67, 74, 70. R Charles (NZ) 71, 72, 71. 215: G Player (SA) 72, 72, 71. 219: B Barnes 73, 72, 74. 223: S Hobday (SA) 69, 79, 75.

HOCKEY

WELSH CUP: Quarter-finals: Llan and Llan 2 Caerphilly 0; Oystermouth 2 Newport 1; Whitchurch 9 Cardiff 2.

WOMEN'S SOUTH LEAGUE: City of Portsmouth 1 Reading 2; Hampstead 2 Horsham 1; Tulse Hill 3 Southampton 1; Winchester 2 Dulwich 1; Worthing 3 Winchmore Hill 2.

WOMEN'S REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: England XI 3 England Under-21 XI 0; England XI 0 Ipswich 1 (both at Milton Keynes).

WOMEN'S COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: North: Yorkshire 0 Cheshire 1; Humberside 8 Sheffield 0; Manchester 0 Yorkshire 7; Cheshire 1 Humberside 2; Sheffield 0 Manchester 2 (at Driffield).

WOMEN'S WELSH LEAGUE: Cardiff Athletic 1 Penarth 2; Pontypridd 1 Colwyn Bay 1; Swansea 6 Haverfordwest 0; Cardiff Institute 1 Newtown 2.

MEN'S SCOTTISH INDOOR LEAGUE: First division: Torbrex Wanderers 6 CIBA Kelburn 4; Grange 4 Inverleith 3; Insights Menzieshill 6 Indespension Western 3; MIM 7 Gordonians 5; Inverleith 1 Torbrex Wanderers 8; CIBA Kelburn 5 Grange 4; Indespension Western 0 MIM 7; Gordonians 2 Insights Menzieshill 8. Champions: Insights Menzieshill.

WOMEN'S SCOTTISH INDOOR LEAGUE: First division: Edinburgh Ladies 6 Menzieshill 0; Western Klick Photopoint 6 Bonagrass Grove 2; Bonagrass Grove 6 Menzieshill 0; Edinburgh Ladies 1 Western Klick Photopoint 2. Champions: Edinburgh Ladies.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Suffolk County Cup: Under-18: Ipswich 3 Framlingham Coll 1. Under-16: Ipswich 2 Woodbridge 0. Under-14: Ipswich 7 Framlingham Coll 0. Other matches: Felsted 5 Culford 1; Kimbolton 1 The Leys, Cambridge 3; Perse 3 Ipswich 3; St Edward's, Oxford 2 Bradfield 4; Cranbrook 6 Langley Park 2; Kingston 1 St George's, Weybridge 1; Dean Close 3 Monkton Combe 1; St Lawrence 3 Cranbrook 3.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Buffalo 2 Ottawa 1; Calgary 6 Anaheim 1; Dallas 2 Los Angeles 1; Edmonton 4 Washington 1; Florida 4 NY Rangers 3.

SUPERLEAGUE: Ayr 7 Bracknell 6; Cardiff 6 Basingstoke 2; Manchester 4 Nottingham 2; Newcastle 2 Sheffield 4.

PREMIER LEAGUE: Guildford 4 Swindon 3; Kingston 5 Telford 0; Medway 2 Slough 10; Peterborough 1 Solihull 21.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Blackburn 8 Castlereagh 2.

MOTOR RALLYING

KARLSTAD: Swedish rally: Final positions: 1, K Eriksson and S Parmander (Swe, Subaru Impreza) 3hr 51min 46sec; 2, C Sainz and L Moya (Sp, Ford Escort) at 16sec; 3, T Makinen and S Harjanne (Fin, Mitsubishi Lancer) at 26; 4, C McRae and N Grist (GB, Subaru Impreza) at 31; 5, T Radstrom and L Blackmarr (Swe, Toyota Celica) at 2min 58sec. World championship positions: Drivers: 1, Sainz 12pts; equal 2, P Liatti (It) and Eriksson 10; 4, Makinen 8; 5, Schwertz 4; 6, McRae 3. Constructors: 1, Subaru 23; 2, Ford 16; 3, Mitsubishi 10.

ROWING

BURWAY HEAD: Eights: 1, Molesey 7min 43sec (open winners); 2, Naphthys (Oxford University lightweights) 7.49 (senior two winners); 3, Walton 7:54. Other division winners: Senior one: Bewl Bridge 8min 06. Senior three: Magdalen Coll, Oxford 8min 17sec. Novice: Imperial College 8min 21sec. Veteran: Walton 8min 15sec. Junior: Shiplake 8min 21sec. Junior (Under-15): King's, Canterbury 9min 52sec. Women's senior one: Thames 9min 15sec. Women's senior three: Twickenham 9min 48sec. Women's novice: St Catherine's, Oxford 9min 35sec. Coxless fours: Open: Cambridge 99 8min 23sec. Coxed fours: Open: Molesey 8min 45sec. Senior three: City of Oxford 9min 32sec. Junior: King's, Canterbury 9min 37sec. Novice: Burway 10min 06sec. Veteran: Marlow 9min 24sec. Junior (Under-15): Emanuel 10min 09sec. Women's senior one: Staines 10min 29sec. Women's senior two: Lensbury 10min 54sec. Women's senior three: Thames 10min 40sec. Women's novice: Surbiton HS 11min 25sec. Quads: Women's senior two: Thames 9min 11sec.

SKI JUMPING

BAD MITTERNDORF, Austria: World Cup: Saturday: 1, T Okabe (Japan) 379.90pts; 2, A Goldberger (Austria) 368.30; 3, P Pelarka (Slovakia) 357.50; 4, R Meglic (Slovakia) 341.10; 5, J Ahonen (Fin) 341.00. Sunday: 1, Pelarka 386.20; 2, Goldberger 379.20; 3, Okeba 376.30; 4, Ahonen 373.40; 5, L Ottesen (Nor) 361.70. Leading overall World Cup positions: 1, Pelarka 1,097pts; 2, D Thoma (Ger) 984; 3, Goldberger 817.

SQUASH

VAL DE LOIRE: International tour: Semi-finals: A Barada (Egypt) bt S Parke (Eng) 17-15, 15-11, 15-11; J Power (Can) bt D Harris (Eng) 15-12, 10-15, 15-2, 15-10. Final: Power bt Barada 15-13, 15-9, 15-6.

TENNIS

DAVIS CUP: World group: First round: Romania 2 Holland 3; Sweden 4 Switzerland 1. Euro/African zone: Group one: First round: Croatia 4 Morocco 1; Denmark 5 Hungary 0; Zimbabwe 5 Ukraine 0. Asia/Oceania zone: Group one: First round: Philippines 2 Indonesia 3; South Korea 3 Japan 2. Americas zone: Group one: Canada 3 Bahamas 1; Chile 2 Ecuador 1. Group two: Cuba 2 Peru 3; El Salvador 1 Uruguay 4; Paraguay 5 Haiti 0; Puerto Rico 2 Colombia 3.

BRAMHALL, Cheshire: LTA men's satellite tournament: Semi-finals: A Richardson (GB) bt M Stadling (Swe) 7-5, 6-3; C Beecher (GB) bt T Kaiola (Fin) 6-4, 7-6. Final: Richardson bt Beecher 7-6, 3-6, 7-6.

LINZ, Austria: Women's tournament: Quarter-finals: J Wiesner (Austria) bt N Tauziat (Fr) 7-5, 6-2; K Habsudova (Slovakia) bt A Carlsson (Swe) 6-2, 6-2; C Rubin (US) bt B Rittner (Ger) 4-6, 7-6, 6-4; J Novotna (Cz) bt M Maleeva (Bul) 6-0, 6-2. Semi-finals: Habsudova bt J Wiesner 6-3, 4-6, 6-3; Rubin bt Novotna 7-5, 5-7, 6-3. Final: Rubin bt Habsudova 6-4, 6-2.

Saturday, February 15

Coupon No, fixture, forecast

FIRST DIVISION

1 Grimsby v Hudd'f'd 1
2 Norwich v West Brom 1
3 Oxford v Oldham 1
4 P Vale v Ipswich 2
5 Southend v Stoke 2
6 Wolves v C Palace 1

SECOND DIVISION

7 Bournem'th v Burnley 1
8 Bristol R v Luton X
9 Crewe v Walsall X
10 Millwall v Rotherham 1
11 Notts Co v Blackpool 2
12 Plymouth v Bury 1
13 Preston v Wycombe X
14 Stockp't v Shr'sbury 1
15 York v Gillingham 2

THIRD DIVISION

16 Carlisle v Brighton 1
17 Dar'gton v South'pe 1
18 Doncaster v Barnet X
19 Fulham v Wigan X
20 Hartlepool v Torquay 1
21 Hull v Exeter 1
22 Leyton O v Cambridge 1
23 Mansfield v Lincoln X
24 Rochdale v Nor'mpton 2
25 Swansea v Scarboro 1

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE

26 Dover v Bromsgrove 1
27 Farnboro v Stalybr'ge X
28 Gateshd v Hednesf'd 2
29 Halifax v Bath 1
30 Kid'm'ster v Alt'cham 1
31 Macc'sf'd v Rushden 1
32 Morecambe v Welling 1
33 Slough v Northwich 2
34 Stevenage v Kettering 1
35 Telford v Hayes 1

ICIS LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

36 Enfield v Chertsey 1
37 Harrow v Hitchin X
38 Heybridge v Dulwich X
39 Staines v Dagenham 2
40 Sutton v St Albans 1
41 Yeading v Bromley 1
42 Yeovil v Kingstonian 1

SCOTTISH CUP FOURTH ROUND

43 Clyde v Kilmarnock 2
44 Motherwell v Hamilton 1
45 Rangers v East Fife 1

SCOTTISH SECOND

46 Stenhousemuir v Ayr X

SCOTTISH THIRD

47 Albion v Inverness 2
48 Cowdenbeath v C Park 1
49 E Stirling v Forfar 2

DRAWS (home teams): Bristol Rovers, Crewe, Preston, Fulham, Doncaster, Mansfield, Farnborough, Harrow, Heybridge, Stenhousemuir.

BEST DRAWS: Bristol Rovers, Doncaster, Mansfield, Harrow, Heybridge.

AWAYS: Ipswich, Blackpool, Northampton, Hednesford, Dagenham.

HOMES: Grimsby, Oxford, Millwall, Stockport, Swansea, Dover, Macclesfield, Enfield, Sutton, Motherwell.

FIXED ODDS: Homes: Grimsby, Oxford, Millwall, Dover, Enfield. Aways: Ipswich, Blackpool, Northampton. Draws: Bristol Rovers, Doncaster, Mansfield.

☐ Vince Wright

Vince Wright's fixed odds away selections were all correct last Saturday

RUGBY UNION

Gomarsall's injuries disturbing England

By David Hands, rugby correspondent

ENGLAND'S leading players will gather at Bisham Abbey today amid concern that a string of injuries could affect their prospects against Ireland this weekend at both senior and A team level. In particular, they will be relieved if Andy Gomarsall comes through a fitness test on his damaged shoulder and can be confirmed in the five nations' championship team to play at Lansdowne Road.

Were Gomarsall, the Wasps scrum half, to withdraw, England's cupboard would look somewhat bare because Kyran Bracken is unlikely to play in the A international at Donnybrook on Friday.

Five Nations'

Championship

Bracken suffered a deep haematoma playing for Saracens against Northampton and club officials expect him to pull out in the hope of being fit for the Pilkington Cup quarter-final with Harlequins on February 23.

Austin Healey is the replacement scrum half, but, even for so confident a character as he, an international debut in Dublin would be a daunting prospect. Gomarsall, who made a premature departure from the league game with West Hartlepool last Saturday, said yesterday: "The nerves in my shoulder went again, as they did against Scotland the previous week, and my ankle was stood on; but I know the shoulder can be treated and tons of ice are being applied to my ankle. I will decide tomorrow whether to rest or start training when the England squad get together."

With Matthew Dawson, of Northampton, a long-term casualty, England need Gomarsall in prime condition. As matters stand, Scott Benton, of Gloucester, could be promoted into the A XV, which would leave Nick Walshe, the second string at Harlequins, the next in line — unless a call were to be made to an old hand in Dewi Morris, who is in such ebullient form for Sale.

Phil Greening, the Gloucester hooker and one of the senior team's replacements, is also doubtful after damaging a knee against Orrell. "It's not looking good; I think I have damaged some of the ligaments," he said yesterday.

Alex King, the Wasps stand-off half, will also receive a thorough examination from the England doctors. He was selected to partner Bracken in the A international, but sustained injuries to chest and shoulder against West.

At least England's problems are short term. The prognosis for Keith Wood, the Ireland captain until damaging a shoulder against France, is more bleak. "It will be at least eight more weeks before he is fit again." Dick Best, the director of rugby at Harlequins — his club — said. "This effectively rules him out for the rest of the season."

If Best's assessment is accurate, the British Isles may be forced to do without him, too. The management team meets tomorrow to finalise details of the 60-strong preliminary squad and, if Wood — a certainty for one of the hooking positions before his injury — is still struggling in April, when the tour party is announced, he is unlikely to be risked in South Africa's demanding physical conditions. Wood missed a season after damaging his other shoulder during the 1995 World Cup.

The France selectors are optimistic that Olivier Merle, their lock, will be fit tomorrow when they name their XV to play Wales in Paris on Saturday. He has not played since the game with Ireland last month because of a rib injury.

☐ Allan Lewis, the former assistant coach with Wales, was appointed director of rugby at Moseley yesterday after the resignation of Mark Anscombe.

ALESSANDRO TROVATI

Katja Seizinger, of Germany, launches herself on the first practice run for the women's downhill at the world skiing championships at Sestriere. Seizinger recorded the fastest time of 1min 41.94sec

BOWLS

Invitation to join the professionals

THE Professional Bowls Association (PBA), which was formed in 1992 in the hope of giving a voice to the sport's leading exponents, has opened its membership to every competitive bowler in the world (David Rhys Jones writes).

Anyone with £100 to spare can pay the joining fee of £50 and another £50 annual subscription and will be entitled to the benefits of membership, which would include the right to enter any qualifying events for the leading championships run by the PBA.

During the recent world indoor championships in Preston, the players and the governing bodies sank their differences and resolved to work in harmony to develop and control the sport at professional level. The World Bowls Tour got under way in earnest — this time with the officials on board.

Richard Corsie, the chairman of the PBA, said: "The present set-up, with four players and four administrators on the board of the World Bowls Tour, is fair for everyone."

ICE HOCKEY

Lodge celebrates his happy father's day

By Norman de Mesquita

CARDIFF Devils and Sheffield Steelers are racing away from the rest of the Superleague, and there is now an 11-point gap between them and Ayr Scottish Eagles, who lie in third place.

On Sunday the Steelers beat Newcastle Cobras 4-2 and the Devils had a 6-2 success over Basingstoke Bison, with Marty Yewchuk scoring three. Ken Hodge, who has been one of the most successful imported players this season, would have gained particular pleasure from scoring his fourteenth goal for Cardiff. The game was watched by his father, Ken Sr, who was born in Birmingham but grew up in Canada and had a highly-successful career in the National Hockey League.

The Steelers took a 2-0 first period lead through goals from Ken Priestlay and Jamie Leach and, although out-shot by the Cobras, always had enough in hand for a comfortable win.

The Eagles, perhaps suffering some reaction after their 4-0 win over the Steelers last Thursday, found themselves 4-0 behind to Bracknell Bees early in the second period. However, five goals in ten minutes put them ahead 5-4 at the second interval. The Bees went ahead again with less than three minutes remaining, but two late goals by Jiri Lala, either side of an effort for Bracknell by Rob Stewart, gave the Eagles the points by the odd goal in 13.

The Eagles have won eight of their past ten games and have moved ahead of Newcastle and Nottingham Panthers. Nottingham beat the Devils on Saturday, but found the improving Manchester Storm too good for them on Sunday. Hilton Ruggles, who had not scored since January 16, contributed two goals to the Storm's 4-2 win, all the Manchester goals coming in the second period.

There is an intriguing three-way fight at the bottom with Manchester (27 points), Basingstoke (27) and Bracknell (26) taking it in turns to occupy last place.

CRICKET

South Africa captain to lead Ireland

THE appointment yesterday of Hansie Cronje, the South Africa captain, to lead Ireland in the Benson and Hedges Cup this summer confirms the intent of the International Cricket Council (ICC) to expand the game beyond the compass of the nine Test-playing nations (Simon Wilde writes).

Ireland will play group matches against Essex, Glamorgan, Somerset and Middlesex in a competition in which they have not won a match. They first took part in 1994.

Taking the field will be only a small part of Cronje's role. He will also promote the game and run coaching clinics. "Ireland is one of the seven countries the council has targeted for immediate assistance to help to spread the game globally," Ali Bacher, the chairman of the ICC development committee said. "There is a strong cricketing culture in Ireland, but the game has a low profile and the base is small." Cronje will be sponsored by the Independent Newspaper group.

TENNIS

Henman's service fails to deter Sinner

From Alix Ramsay in Dubai

TIM HENMAN'S march towards the top ten in men's tennis came to an unexpected halt last night when he was knocked out in the first round of the Dubai Open. It was Henman's first match in three weeks and appeared to be an easy way back into the weekly grind, but, within an hour and a half, Henman had lost 7-6, 6-4 to Martin Sinner, a qualifier from Germany ranked No 183 in the world.

After the bright start that Henman had made to the year by reaching a final in Qatar and winning his first title in Sydney, this performance was all the more disappointing. It was not as if he did not have his chances, especially during the first set, but they went begging. Watched from the royal box by Chris Eubank, Henman looked decidedly ring rusty as he squandered seven break points, including three in the vital eleventh game.

Sinner had no obvious weapons, but, with Henman out of sorts, he never needed them. Henman's service was inconsistent and his backhand prone to errors. Even so, Sinner did not come close to breaking Henman in the first set, and did his best to give him the edge.

Henman managed to fight back from 5-1 down in the tie-break to 6-5, but, with his game working only in fits and starts, he had left it too late to turn the match around.

Sinner finally got his chance to break service at the start of the second set. Dumping a forehand into the net to give away break point, Henman served a double fault to go 2-1 down. He broke back immediately, but was broken again in the ninth game, leaving Sinner to serve for the match.

Henman, though, is nothing if not sensible. He has taken in his stride all the hype and the hope that has surrounded him since Wimbledon, and this defeat is not going to send him into a deep depression. He still has his eyes fixed on improving his position of No 17 in the world.

"I definitely felt after the first three weeks of the year that I was on something of a roll," he said. "To lose here in the first round is disappointing, but it happens to a lot of players. I created a lot of chances in the first set, but they are no good if you don't take them."

IN BRIEF

McRae put in spin by choice of tyres

COLIN McRAE, who is trying to regain the motor rallying world championship title, saw the Swedish Rally slip from his grasp yesterday. McRae took the lead in the second timed trial of the day, but then spun twice in the next special stage when his choice of tyres let him down.

Kenneth Eriksson, of Sweden, brought in by Subaru because of his knowledge of the course, made the right tyre choice and forged ahead for Subaru's second victory of the season. Carlos Sainz and Tommi Mäkinen finished second and third.

Girardelli retires

Skiing: Marc Girardelli, of Luxembourg, five times the World Cup champion, announced his retirement at the world championships at Sestriere yesterday. Girardelli, who has suffered a string of injuries, said that doctors had told him that he could spend his life on crutches unless he stopped racing.

O'Meara repeat

Golf: Mark O'Meara won the Buick Invitational tournament in San Diego by two strokes from seven other players. The win follows his victory in the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, making him the first US Tour player to record consecutive victories since Peter Jacobsen won the the same two tournaments in 1995.

Player banned

Rugby union: Sean Gibson, a back-row forward for Hartridge HSOB, who had only just returned after the Welsh Districts Rugby Union imposed an indefinite ban on him for an accumulation of sendings off, has been banned for six years after he kicked an opponent in the head, causing him injuries which required 44 stitches, during a Newport and District Cup match against Caerleon.

Ernie Spiriti

Rifle shooting: Ernie Spiriti, who has died aged 82, was a former winner of the National Small Bore Rifle Association grand aggregate at Bisley and a regular England and Great Britain shot. He worked on ammunition development and was one of the group at ICI responsible for the development of Tenex, the British-made ammunition that is used throughout world shooting.

RUGBY LEAGUE: ANOTHER HOME TIE FOR HOLDERS IN CHALLENGE CUP

Goulding waiting to hear two verdicts

By Christopher Irvine

UNLESS the disciplinary committee of the Rugby Football League (RFL) shows an extraordinary degree of leniency to Bobbie Goulding, the St Helens captain, for a head-high tackle that prompted his dismissal against Wigan on Saturday, he can expect at the very least to miss their fifth round tie in the Silk Cut Challenge Cup in which they will be at home to either Huddersfield or Hull.

Goulding is due to appear before the disciplinary panel on Thursday and he might not be alone if the RFL's executive committee decides today, after studying video pictures of the mass brawl sparked by Goulding's reckless challenge on Neil Cowie, the Wigan forward, that other players warrant punishment.

While Goulding will be concerned by the possibility of a lengthy ban, another worry for him is his transfer request, due to be discussed today.

St Helens, the Cup holders, clearly want Goulding, the Great Britain scrum half, to remain at Knowsley Road. However, the club is adamant that demands by him for a more remunerative contract will not be met. Any transfer fee would probably be in excess of £500,000.

Hull and Huddersfield replay on Thursday for the right to meet St Helens. The losers of that match will be at Hunslet in the first round of the new plate competition, which gives beaten sides from the lower divisions a second chance to reach Wembley, where the final will be a curtain-raiser to the Challenge Cup final itself on May 3.

The draw last night produced three all-Super League meetings — between London Broncos and Bradford Bulls, the finalists last year: Salford Reds and Paris Saint-Germain, who won their first game on English soil when they eliminated Batley on Sunday; and Warrington Wolves and Sheffield Eagles.

London's first task will be to find a venue, as the club does not take up residence at the Stoop Memorial Ground until next month.

FIFTH ROUND DRAW: Carlisle Border Raiders v Featherstone Rovers; Halifax Blue Sox v Keighley Cougars; Leeds Rhinos v Dewsbury Rams; London Broncos v Bradford Bulls; St Helens v Huddersfield Giants or Hull, Salford Reds v Paris Saint-Germain, Wakefield Trinity v Oldham Bears; Warrington Wolves v Sheffield Eagles

☐ Ties to be played on February 22 and 23.

SILK CUT PLATE: Bramley v Rochdale; Hull KR v Doncaster; Hunslet v Huddersfield or Hull; Lancashire Lynx v Barrow; Leigh v Swinton; Whitehaven v Batley; Widnes v York; Workington v Dudley Hill.

☐ Ties to be played on February 15 and 16.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

Peter Crouch, for England, made a good play on this hand, from the Macallan Camrose Trophy match, between England and Scotland, in early December.

Dealer South — Game all — IMPs

North: ♠ J 10 9 7 5 ♥ 7 4 2 ♦ A Q 5 ♣ 9 2

West: ♠ 4 ♥ K Q 10 8 5 ♦ K 10 3 2 ♣ A 8 7

East: ♠ K 3 ♥ J 6 3 ♦ J 9 8 7 4 ♣ K Q 10

South: ♠ A Q 8 6 2 ♥ A 9 ♦ 6 ♣ J 6 5 4 3

S	W	N	E
1S	2H	4S	All Pass

Contract: Four Spades by South — Lead: king of hearts

Steve Lodge (North) raised to Four Spades on the first round because he thought that he might well have to bid it anyway if East-West bid Four Hearts. In a technical sense, his hand is worth only Three Spades. However, South would have gone on over that, and Four Spades is a good contract.

After the heart lead, it appears that declarer has to decide whether to take the spade finesse or the diamond finesse, but Crouch solved the problem neatly by laying down the ace of spades at trick two. If that felled the king, he did not need to risk the diamond finesse — he could just concede a heart and two clubs. When both defenders followed small on the ace of spades, Crouch took the diamond finesse and disposed of his losing heart on the ace. Thus, he lost a spade trick and two club tricks.

The Scottish declarer in Four Spades took the inferior line of finessing a diamond at trick two. When that held, with the spade finesse right, he emerged with an overtrick; but, if the diamond finesse had lost, he would have lost three more tricks immediately — going down even if the king of spades had been singleton.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene, chess correspondent

Polgar leads

Judit Polgar, from Hungary, the highest-ranked female player in the history of chess, has taken the sole lead in the elite tournament in Linares, Spain. In the fifth round, she won a 67-move game against Dreev, the Russian grandmaster, to total 4 points. Kasparov, Kramnik and Adams have 3½; Nikolic, Gelfand and Piket 2½; Topalov and Dreev 2; Anand and Ivanchuk 1½ and Shirov 1.

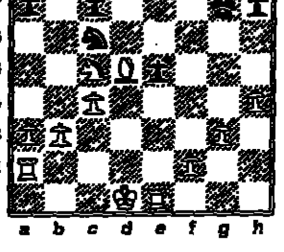
The most exciting game from the fifth round was Kasparov's demolition of Predrag Nikolic, the former Yugoslav grandmaster, in Kasparov's favourite Scotch Opening.

White: Garry Kasparov
Black: Predrag Nikolic
Linares, February 1997

Scotch Opening

1	e4	e5
2	Nf3	Nc6
3	d4	exd4
4	Nxd4	Nf6
5	Nxc6	bxc6
6	e5	Qe7
7	Qe2	Nd5
8	c4	Ba6
9	b3	g5
10	g3	Bg7
11	Bb2	0-0
12	Nd2	f6
13	Qh5	Nb4
14	h4	g4
15	Kd1	c5
16	a3	Nc6
17	Bd3	f5
18	Bxf5	Bxe5
19	Re1	d6
20	Be4	Bb7
21	Qxg4+	Qg7
22	Bd5+	Kh8
23	Bxe5	dxe5
24	Qxg7+	Kxg7
25	Ne4	Rad8
26	Nxc5	Bc8
27	Ra2	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



On move 14, Kasparov offered to sacrifice a rook, but, if 14. ... Nc2+; 15. Kd1 Nxa1; 16. hxg5 grants White a vehement attack. Once Black had declined the sacrifice, Kasparov's creative ploy of conducting the rest of the middlegame with his king in the centre, to concentrate his firepower against the black king, paid huge dividends.

Ubeda tournament

In tandem with the event in Linares, a competition is taking place in Ubeda, Spain. Lautier, the French grandmaster, leads after two rounds.

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

ACALEPHA
a. A Caliph's wife
b. Dropping the K sound
c. A jellyfish

BRACKMARD
a. A quicksand
b. A short sword
c. A breed of duck

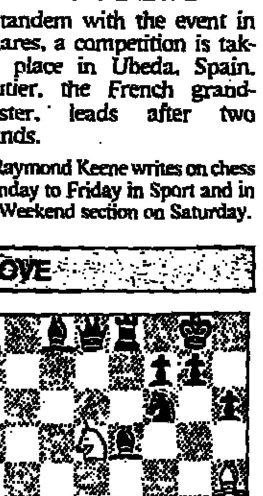
AUTEXOUSY
a. Without any water
b. Free will
c. An outdoor lavatory

BOUCON
a. A mouthful
b. A mythical beast
c. A French bullock

Answers on page 46

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene



Black to play. This position is from the game Swidler — Malaniuk, St Petersburg, 1994. Here, White has just played played 1. Nxd5, calculating that 1. ... Nxd5 allows 2. Bxd8 and 1. ... Qxd5 is met by 2. Bxf6 Bxf6; 3. Bh7+ winning the black queen. Unfortunately for him, he has missed something. Can you see what?

Solution on page 46

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 0171-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

WHITEHEADS CONTRACTING LIMITED
(In Creditors Voluntary Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Creditors of the above named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 19th March 1997 to send in their full forenames and surname, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned, K D Goodman, FCA, of Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 553, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated this 5th day of February 1997
K D GOODMAN, Liquidator

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE
0171 680 6878
FAX: 0171 481 9313
Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

The Insolvency Act 1986
RELAY COMMUNICATIONS (SALISBURY) LTD
Trading Name: Kall Kwik Printing (Salisbury)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on 26th February 1997 at 4 Charterhouse Square, London EC1M 6EN at 12.00 noon for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said Act.
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington, FIPA, of Poppleton & Appleby, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN is appointed to act as the qualified Insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98(2)(a) of the said Act who will furnish creditors, free of charge, with such information concerning the Company's affairs as they may reasonably require.
Dated this 5th day of February 1997
By Order of the Board
ERIC WOODSINE, Director

ROGER TAYLOR ASSOCIATES LIMITED
The Insolvency Act 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act, 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Poppleton and Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester M4 1QD on Monday 17th February 1997 at 2.00pm, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act. Pursuant to Section 98, Subsection (2)(a) of the said Act, Mr Stephen Lord of Poppleton and Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD is appointed to act as the Qualified Insolvency Practitioner who will furnish creditors with such information as they may reasonably require.
Dated this 5th day of February 1997
By Order of the Board
A SHAW, Director

No. 007237 of 1996
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF GALL THOMSON ENVIRONMENTAL PLC
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated the 29th day of January 1997 confirming the cancellation of the Share Premium Account of the above-named Company was registered by the Registrar of Companies on the 3rd of February 1997.
DATED THIS 11th DAY OF FEBRUARY 1997
Bill Taylor Dickinson of Irongate House, Duke's Place, London, EC3A 7LP, Solicitors for the above-named Company
Ref: BL/GAL/7451/2

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
Pro Kennex (GB) Ltd
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of Creditors of the above named Company will be held: at the offices of Messers. Elliot, Woolfe & Rose, 12th Floor, Premier House, 112 Station Road, Edgware, Middlesex HA8 7TT. On Friday the 14 day of February 1997, at 11.00 o'clock in the forenoon. For the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.
The Licensed Insolvency Practitioner dealing with the Company's affairs is Melvyn L Rose FCA, of Messers. Elliot, Woolfe & Rose, Premier House, 112 Station Road, Edgware, Middlesex HA8 7TT, and will provide information pursuant to Section (98)(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986.
Dated this 30 day of January 1997
By Order of the Board
G SCHARRER, Director

WHITEHEADS CONTRACTING LIMITED
(In Creditors Voluntary Liquidation)
The Insolvency Act 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, notice is hereby given that I, K D Goodman, FCA a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs. Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 553, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 6LF, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members and creditors on 5th February 1997. All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address.
All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their claims in writing to me. No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given.
Dated this 5th day of February 1997
K D GOODMAN, FCA, Liquidator

KITCOVER LIMITED
(Formerly Ghuald Landar Limited t/a Ghuald Headway)
(In Creditors Voluntary Liquidation)
The Insolvency Act 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, notice is hereby given that I, K D Goodman, FCA a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs. Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 553, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 6LF, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members and creditors on 6th February 1997. All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address.
All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their claims in writing to me. No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given.
Dated this 6th day of February 1997
K D GOODMAN, FCA, Liquidator

TRAFALGAR (U.K.) LTD
AND
TRAFALGAR AUTOMOTIVE LTD
The Insolvency Act 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that meetings of the Creditors of the above named Companies will be held at 4 Prince George Street, Havant, Hampshire, PO9 1BG on Friday the 14th day of February 1997, at 11.00am, for the purpose considering the appointment of a Liquidator and a Liquidation Committee as mentioned in Sections 100 and 101 of the above Act and other matters permitted under rule 4.53 of the Insolvency Rules 1986. Statements of claim and proxies (if applicable) to be used at the Meeting must be lodged at 12 Tumblewood Road, Banstead, Surrey, SM7 1DX, not later than 12.00 noon on the business day before the Meeting. Resolutions to be taken at the meeting may also include a resolution specifying the terms on which the Liquidator is to be remunerated.
Graham Henderson of Henderson & Co, is a person qualified to act as an insolvency practitioner in relation to the Companies who will, during the period before the day of the Meetings, furnish creditors free of charge with such information concerning the Companies affairs as they may reasonably require.
Dated 4th February 1997
By Order of the Board of Directors
JOHN TRIMBY, Director

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE
0171 680 6878
FAX: 0171 481 9313
Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

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SNOOKER: FORMER WORLD NO 1 REPLIES IN STYLE TO YOUNG SON'S QUESTION ON CHAMPIONS

Small talk sparks Davis into finding title-winning effort

By Phil Yates

STEVE DAVIS, who revisited the winner's circle after a 25-month absence by beating Ronnie O'Sullivan 10-8 in the Benson and Hedges Masters final on Sunday, believes that a family conversation over dinner influenced his unexpected re-emergence.

An innocent remark from Greg, Davis's five-year-old son, struck a nerve far more effectively than the countless articles in which Davis, the six-time world champion, has been written off as yesterday's man.

"I was discussing plans for the week ahead with my wife," Davis said. "We were talking about what I would do, depending on results, when Greg looked up and said: 'You'll go to the tournament, lose and come home like you always do.'"

Davis Jr was born two years after Davis equalled a record that he holds with Ray Reardon and Stephen Hendry for winning six world championships during snooker's recognised modern era.

As a babe in arms, Greg was present when his father brought home other trophies, but, before recovering from an 8-4 deficit to overcome O'Sullivan, Davis had failed to add to his career total of 70 titles since the Regal Welsh Open in January 1995.

"There was another occasion when Greg asked me if I'd ever been a champion," Davis, 39, said. "I was amused, but it did get me thinking how nice it would be to get that old feeling back."

In his 98th final, Davis held O'Sullivan to 4-4 entering the concluding session, but his hopes of victory were forlorn when breaks of 96, 72, 121 and 67 pushed the younger man by 18 years into an 8-4 lead. Experience, patience and an ability to dictate the pace were vital ingredients in the Davis fightback, but, without accurate cue delivery and confidence, those qualities would have been rendered useless. By gradually eroding O'Sullivan's resolve, Davis grew in strength as the contest progressed. He won two pivotal frames from well behind and, by fashioning a 130 clearance, collected the event's £15,000 highest-break award.

In terms of dedication and competitive spirit, Davis has much in common with Jack Nicklaus. By defeating O'Sullivan with such a sustained late spurt, Davis evoked memories of Nicklaus's heroics on the back nine at Augusta to deny Severiano Ballesteros and Greg Norman the 1986 Masters' green jacket.

Davis described the result as one of his best ever. It was also his most lucrative as the £135,000 first prize superseded one of £105,000 collected at the 1989 world championship.

Barry Hearn, the manager of Davis for 22 years, made a now infrequent visit to a tournament in order to witness an attempt by his longest-established client to defy the cynics who maintained that his name would never again be engraved on a trophy.

"I've told him: 'You're too old and too decrepit to reach finals,' but thankfully Steve didn't take me seriously," Hearn said. "It's like the film *Jaws*. Just when you feel it's safe to go into the water ... Oh my God, the Nugget is back."

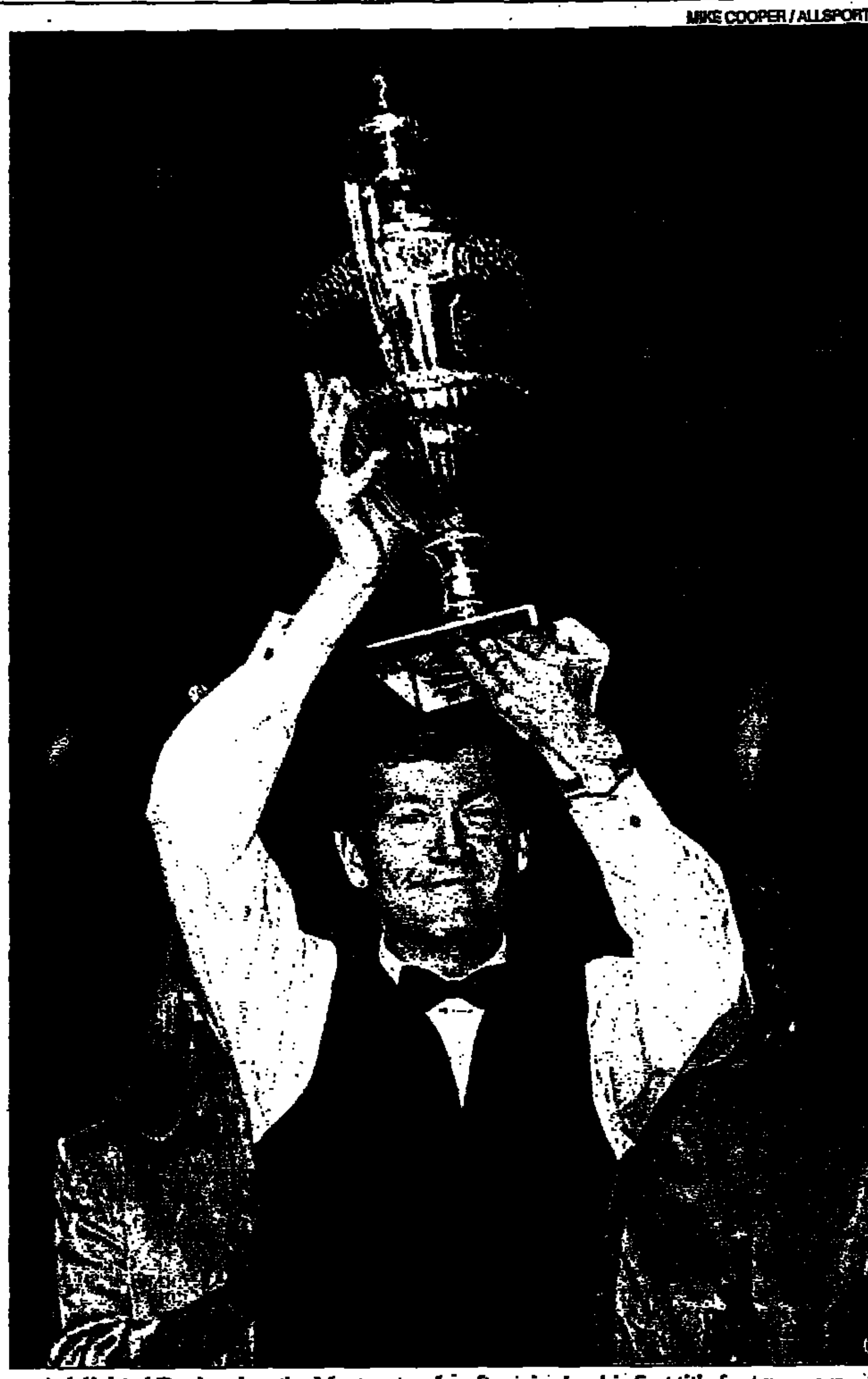
Davis, a 28-1 ante-post outsider, is too experienced to fall into a pit of self-delusion. He appreciates that it will remain tough to compete with the circuit's new generation and match the phenomenally high percentage of final appearances that he boasted during his heyday in the 1980s.

Davis, smoothly stroking the ball after incorporating "an easier, freer cue action", is adamant, however, that by becoming Masters champion for a third time, he has turned a psychological corner. If there can be one negative aspect to prevailing at the game's premier invitation event, it is that no world ranking points are earned — and that is the currency of which Davis is most short at present.

RESULT

S Davis bt R O'Sullivan 10-8
FRAME SCORES (Davis first): 0-116, 0-113, 72-13, 38-67, 78-50, 0-123, 62-46, 63-1, 32-86, 52-72, 7-122, 4-75, 109-0, 60-27, 130-1, 63-48, 74-48, 68-1.

MIKE COOPER / ALLSPORT



A delighted Davis raises the Masters trophy after winning his first title for two years

A diet of wit and cynicism

Night Waves. *Radio 3, 10.45pm.*

Those in search of an antidote to political correctness will want to hear the interview tonight with Richard Klein, the American writer who has done for social faddism what P.J. O'Rourke's *All The Trouble In The World* did for anthropological myth-making. Klein rose to fame, or notoriety, via a book called *Cigarettes Are Sublime* and now he has written a witty assault on foodies and diet fanatics called *Eat Fat*. Klein may wish to loiter in the studio, for research purposes, to hear an item on the culture of fashion, which is tied to the Imperial War Museum's celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the launch of Dior's New Look.

But I Know What I Like. *Radio 4, 2.30pm.*

The recorder is an instrument that most families associate with a thin wail emanating from the bedroom of a child who is being "taught" the instrument — though not through choice — at school. Not all putative recorder players, however, turn into teenagers who graduate to an instrument that must be plugged in to the mains. Michala Petri, the first guest in this new series, is a brilliant exponent of the recorder and her range, from Baroque to contemporary, is amply demonstrated here. Children, many of whom are on half-term holiday, should be encouraged to tune in. David Owen Norris interviews Petri and accompanies her on the piano as she plays some of her favourite works.

Peter Barnard

RADIO 1

7.00am Simon Mayo **9.00** Kevin Greening **12.00** Mary Anne Hobbs, includes at **12.30pm** Newsbeat **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier **7.00** Evening Session. Includes Death In Vegas in session **9.00** Cling Film **10.00** Stuart Maconie **12.00** Claire Sturgess **4.00am** Clive Warren

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake Up To Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Anne Robinson **1.30pm** Debbie Thrower **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Hayes over Britain **8.30** A Town Like Alice (2/6) **9.00** Mae West: They Called Me Snow White But I Drifted **10.00** In Company With Sondheim: James McConnel and Anthony Drewe (6/6) **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme, includes Racing Preview **9.00** The Magazine **12.00** Midday with Mair **2.05pm** Ruscoe on Five **4.00** John Inverdale Nationwide **7.00** News Extra **7.35** The Tuesday Match: Iain Carter presents coverage tonight's World Cup qualifying group four game between Scotland and Estonia. Plus news on the friendlies featuring Wales v Ireland and Northern Ireland v Belgium **10.00** News Talk, with Nigel Cassidy **11.00** News Extra, with Valerie Sanderson **12.05am** After Hours, with Vincent Hanna **2.05** Up All Night, with Rhod Sharp

TALK RADIO

5.00am Chris Ashley and Sandy Warr **7.00** Paul Ross **9.00** Scott Chisholm **12.00** Lorraine Kelly **2.00pm** Tommy Boyd **4.00** Peter Deeley **7.00** Moz Dee's Sportszone **10.00** James Whale **1.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. News on the hour. **5.30am** Europe Today **7.15** Off the Shelf **7.30** New Ideas **7.50** Every Note Paints a Picture **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** A History of British Theatre **8.45** Good Books **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** Just a Minute **9.45** Sport **10.30** BBC English **10.45** Off the Shelf **11.30** Meridian Feature **12.05pm** World Business Report **12.15** Britain Today **12.30** Jazz Score **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Multitrack **3.05** Sport **3.15** What's News **3.30** Shared Experiences **4.15** World Today **4.30** BBC English **4.45** Britain Today **5.30** World Business Report **5.45** Sports Roundup **6.30** Jazz Score **7.01** Outlook **7.30** Megamix **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** Britain Today **9.30** Meridian Feature **10.30** World Today **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.10** Voicebox **11.15** What's News **11.30** Megamix **12.30am** Folk Routes **12.45** Britain Today **1.30** Outlook **1.55** Words of Faith **2.30** Composer of the Month **3.15** Sports Roundup **3.30** Meridian On Screen **4.30** Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **6.00** Mike Read **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto. Dvořák (Piano Concerto in G minor, Op 33) **3.00** Jamie Crick **7.00** Classic Newsnight **7.30** Sonata. Saint-Saëns (Cello Sonata No 1 in C minor, Op 32) **8.00** Evening Concert. Lehar (Gold and Silver Waltz); Bach (Cello Suite No 3); Shostakovich (Cello Concerto No 1 in E flat major); Bizet (Symphony in C) **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Mel Cooper

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono's Breakfast Experience **10.00** Graham Dene **1.00pm** Jeremy Clark **4.00** Nicky Horne **7.00** Paul Coyte (FM) / Robin Banks (AM) **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00am** Randal Lee Rose

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor, includes Dvořák (Symphony No 8 in G); Feyrtax (Maria Pieno Virtute); Verdi (Overture: Oberto); Janacek (Violin Sonata); Trad (The Three Ravens); Beethoven (Symphony No 5 in C minor)
9.00 Morning Collection. Handel (Organ Concerto in B flat); Chopin (Three Nocturnes, Op 15); Bellini (Ah! Non Credea Mirarti, La Sonnambula); Roussel (Symphony No 3 in G minor)
10.00 Musical Encounters. Brahms (Warum ist das Licht); Mozart, arr Grieg (Fantasia in C minor, K475); Lutoslawski (Variations on a Theme of Paganini); Britten (A Charm of Lullabies); Lully (Armide, Act 2)
12.00 Composers of the Week: Schumann
1.00pm The BBC Orchestras. BBC National Orchestra of Wales, under David Atherton. With Ralph Kirshbaum, cello. Mussorgsky, ed Rimsky-Korsakov (A Night on the Bare Mountain); Stravinsky (Symphony in C); Dvořák (Cello Concerto in B minor) (r)
2.30 Ensemble, with Penny Gore. Steven Isserlis, cello and Pascal Devoyon, piano. Debussy (Intermezzo; Scherzo); Bloch (Cello Sonata); Duparc (Cello Sonata in A minor, 1867) (r)
3.15 Bosco Does the Samba. Brazilian musician Bosco de Oliveira chooses five key periods in the development of samba. During the 1930s and 1940s, songwriters portrayed two faces of Brazil (2/5)
3.20 BBC Orchestras. BBC Symphony Orchestra under Libor Pesek. With Raphael Oleg, violin. Novak (About the Eternal Longing); Strauss (Also Sprach Zarathustra) (r)
5.00 Music Machine, with Tommy Pearson and John Cowley
5.15 In Tune, with Mairi Nicolson. Chabrier (España); Rossini (Una Voce Poco Fa); Korngold (Cello Concerto)
7.45 Chamber Music from Edinburgh. Linda Ormiston introduces the second of four concerts featuring the pianist Stephen Kovacevich, the violinist James Clark and principals from the Scottish Chamber Orchestra. Beethoven (String Quartet in D Op 18 No 3); Stenhammar (String Quartet in F, Op 18) *8.45 News from North Britain.* The second of a selection of short stories from Scotland. The Husband's Story, by Eliza Langland **9.05** Part 2. Mozart (String Quartet in F)
9.30 The Outline around the Shadow. The artist Deanna Petherbridge, professor of drawing at the Royal College of Art, examines the history, techniques and significance of drawing (2/5)
10.05 The BBC Orchestras. BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra under Ole Schmidt. With Arto Noras, cello. Shostakovich (Cello Concerto No 1) (r)
10.45 Night Waves. See Choice
11.30 Composer of the Week: Ockeghem (r)
12.30am Jazz Notes, with Digby Fairweather
1.00am Through the Night, with John Shea. Includes **3.00** Schools and **5.00** Sequence

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping (LW) 6.00 News **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, includes Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament
9.00 News 9.05 Call Nick Ross
10.00 News; A Day in Doncaster (FM). The performance poet John Hegley visits Doncaster for the first time to do a gig with local poets
10.00 Daily Service (LW)
10.15 On This Day (LW)
10.30 Woman's Hour, with Jenni Murray
11.30 Medicine Now, with Geoff Watts. A look at the state of the health system
12.00 News; You and Yours, with Lesley Riddoch
12.25pm Cross Questioned. Vincent Hanna is joined for the crossword quiz by Francis Wheen, David Quantick, Henry Naylor and *Times* columnist Lynne Truss **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Classic Storylines. Peggy Reynolds looks at *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* and its effect on modern culture (3/4) (r)
2.30 But I Know What I Like. See Choice (1/6)
3.00 The Afternoon Shift, with Daire Brehan. Includes a phone-in with the architect Maxwell Hutchinson
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Paul Vaughan reviews a new biography of the poet Byron and examines the stage premiere of *Kind Hearts and Coronets*
4.45 Short Story: Jilted, by Dina Mehta. Read by Sudha Bhuchar
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Maugham's Eye View: Before the Party. Narrated by Dirk Bogarde. With Dorothy Tutin (5/6) (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 File on Four. Reports on important events and issues in Britain and around the world. With Jonathan Rugman
8.00 Science Now. A weekly review of scientific news with Peter Evans (r)
8.30 In Living Colour. The last in the series reflecting life for black and Asian people. With Trevor Phillips
9.00 In Touch. Peter White with news and information for visually impaired people
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Isabel Hilton
10.45 Book at Bedtime: House of Splendid Isolation. Written and read by Edna O'Brien (2/10) (r)
11.00 Mediumwave. A review of the week's media events with Vincent Hanna (r)
11.30 Parkes and Gardens (FM). Simon Parkes visits gardens set in urban areas (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament (LW). A look at the latest developments in Westminster
12.00 News incl **12.27am** approx Weather
12.30am The Late Book: Regeneration, by Pat Barker. Read by Alice Arnold (2/10) (r)
12.48 Shipping Forecast
1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.

Thugwane puts deadly distractions behind him

By David Powell
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

Thugwane: attacked again

WHILE Josiah Thugwane was the centre of attention at South Africa House yesterday, Lawrence Peu went relatively unnoticed. Thugwane's best marathon time may be slower than Peu's, but it hardly matters that he has never broken 2hrs 11min when he can claim to be South Africa's first black Olympic champion.

Another town, another reception. Thugwane is used to it. He failed to impress in his only marathon since the Olympics because he was too busy attending functions in his honour to train properly. He is determined not to make the same mistake for the Flora London Marathon on April 13. Today he is off to Colorado Springs to train, far away from all distractions.

Thugwane repeated his story of how, five months before the Olympics, he narrowly escaped with his life when his truck was hijacked and a bullet scarred his chin before he jumped from the moving vehicle. Two weeks ago Thugwane was attacked again, requiring hospital treatment after being pulled from his car and beaten up.

Any anxieties that Thugwane may suffer behind a steering wheel in future would be as understandable as any nervousness that Peu may feel on a plane. Peu was booked on flight TWA800, from New York to Paris, which exploded off Long Island, killing all 230 people on board, shortly before the Games in Atlanta last summer.

FLORA LONDON MARATHON 1997

Peu, an Olympic reserve, had been training with the marathon squad in Albuquerque, but, with little sign of a team place opening up, he arranged to race in France. He had a late change of mind and, having sidestepped death, his lucky streak picked up. Xolile Yawa withdrew from the Olympic team and Peu ran and finished 27th.

Albuquerque to Atlanta was Peu's first flight since learning of the fate of TWA800. "It was revolving in my mind on that flight," Peu said. Flying from Johannesburg into London with Thugwane at the weekend was not the ordeal that it would have been six months ago, though. "I do not think about it now," he said. Peu's London target is to improve his best from 2hr 10min 29sec. Thugwane's quickest is 2hr 11min 46sec.

Thugwane's fame in South Africa is making life impossible for him, according to Peu. Peu said that, unless Athletics South Africa, and Thugwane's managers, tightened "the mechanism to protect this guy", his vulnerability to attack by those envious of his wealth would discourage the next generation of athletes.

"This guy cannot carry on like this," Peu said. "We can expect other guys to win gold medals and these athletes must be protected. It is demoralising the young of South Africa. They are not going to have the motivation to do athletics because they are going to be scared. They will thinking: 'What is the use if you are going to perform and, at the end of the day, you will get killed?'"

☐ In the interview on January 27 with Jane Griffin, the consultant nutritionist to the British Olympic Association, about the correct diet in preparing for a marathon, her views on eating red meat were misunderstood. They should have read: "Meat is no longer a high-fat food and should not be excluded from the diet on those grounds. It is an excellent source of iron. Those who exclude meat for religious, cultural or moral reasons must regularly include other sources of iron in their diet."

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TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

World Cup
European qualifying group four
Estonia v Scotland (at Louis II Stadium, Monaco, 7.0)

International matches
Northern Ireland v Belgium (at Windsor Park)
Wales v Ireland (at Cardiff Arms Park)

Nationwide League
Second division
Bournemouth v Preston (7.45)
Peterborough v Wrexham (7.45)
York v Walsall

Third division
Brighton v Exeter (7.45)
Carlisle v Scarborough (7.45)
Fulham v Swansea (7.45)
Hartlepool v Cardiff
Leyton Orient v Rochdale (7.45)

Auto Windscreens Shield
Quarter-finals
Northern section
Bury v Stockport (7.45)
Shrewsbury v Scunthorpe
Southern section
Plymouth v Northampton (7.45)
Watford v Bristol City (7.45)

Vauxhall Conference
Bath v Hayes (7.45)
Macclesfield v Hednesford (7.45)
Stalybridge v Southport (7.45)

FA UMBRO TROPHY: Second round replays: Dorchester v Salisbury (7.45); Emley v Kidderminster; Guiseley v Welling; Woking v St Albans (7.45).
DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier division: Baldock v Nuneaton; Burton Albion v Worcester City; Cheltenham v Halesowen (7.45); Gresley v King's Lynn (7.45); Hastings v Crawley. Midland division: Tamworth v Grantham. Southern division: Fisher London v Erith and Belvedere.
UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Lancaster v Barrow. First division: Atherton L R v Curzon Ashton; Warrington v Leigh. League Cup: Fourth round: Accrington Stanley v Radcliffe Borough. President's Cup: Second round replay: Farsley Celtic v Boston United. Unifilla first division Cup: Second round replay: Great Harwood v Netherfield.
ICIS LEAGUE: Premier division: Dulwich v Harrow; Enfield v Bromley; Oxford City v Boreham Wood (7.45). First division: Aldershot Town v Thame; Canvey Island v Barton Rovers; Leyton Pennant v Molesey; Wokingham v Berkhamsted. Second division: Banstead v Egham; Barking v Edgware; Horsham v Ware. Third division: Aveley v Epsom and Ewell; Hertford v Northwood.
GILBERT LEAGUE OF WALES: League Cup: Quarter-final, second leg: Bangor City (3) v Rhyl (0).
PONTIN'S CENTRAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Stoke v Birmingham (7.0). League Cup: Group four: Doncaster v Grimsby (7.0). Group five: Notts County v Derby (7.0).
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Oxford United v Ipswich; West Ham v Chelsea (at Dagenham, 2.0).
FAI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Derry v University College Dublin.
WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Faversham Town v Thamesmead Town; Folkestone v Furness (7.45); Hythe v Herne Bay; Slade Green v Corinthian, Whitstable Town v Deal.
SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Bridgwater v Odd Down (7.45); Chard v Bristol Manor Farm (7.45); Mangotsfield v Backwell; Torrington v Tiverton; Westbury v Chippenham.
LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Amersham v Harefield; Hillingdon Boro v Cockfosters. Senior Cup: Group D: Islington St Mary's v Barkingside.
MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Biggleswade v Arlesey.
NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Chadderton v St Helens; Holker Old Boys v Rossendale; Maine Road v Newcastle Town. Cup: Third round replay: Glossop North End v Nantwich Town.
ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Ford United v Brentwood; Stansted v East Ham.
BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Tividale v Hill Top R.
JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Fakenham v Warboys (7.45); Watton v Diss (7.45); Wroxham v Lowestoft (7.45).
JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Andover v Whitchurch; Bemerton Heath v Brockenhurst; East Cowes v Petersfield; Wimborne Town v Thatcham Town.
UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Eynesbury v Spalding.
UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Arundel v Oakwood; Burgess Hill v Langney Sports; Hailsham v Peacehaven and Telscombe; Hassocks v Southwick.
INTERLINK EXPRESS ALLIANCE: Boldmere St M v Stratford T; Bridgnorth v Chasetown; Hinckley Athletic v Rushall O; W Mid Police v Rocester.
NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Ashfield v North Ferriby; Liversedge v Hallam; Thackley v Ossett Albion. President's Cup: Semi-finals: Belper Town v Pontefract Collieries; Hucknall Town v Brigg Town.
FA YOUTH CUP: Fourth round: Nottingham Forest v Blackburn; Sunderland v Luton; Leeds v Queens Park Rangers.
SCHOOLS MATCHES: English Schools Snickers under-19 Trophy: Rainham Mark Grammar, Kent v Luton Sixth Form College, Bedfordshire (2.15); Parmeters, Hertfordshire v Newmarket Upper, Suffolk (2.15). Southern League: Gosport v Bristol (12.0).

RUGBY UNION

Tour matches
Combined Northampton/Leicester XV v Otago (at Northampton, 7.30)
Watsonians v SW Districts (SA) (7.0)

Club matches
Aberavon v Tonmawr (7.0)
Maesteg v Glamorgan Wanderers (7.0)
Pontypridd v Chepstow (7.0)

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 45

ACALEPHA
(c) A class of Radiate marine animals, embracing the Jelly fishes and Medusas, of pellucid gelatinous substance; so called from possessing the power of stinging or tingling anything which they touch, whence some of them are known as sea-nettles. The singular is supplied by *Acaleph* or *Acalephan*. From the Greek *akalēphē*. "*Acalepha* (Sea Blubbers). The most common form of these animals is that of an umbrella or mushroom; a broad circular convex disk of jelly, usually clear and colourless."

BRACKMARD
(b) A horseman's sword or cutlass, with a straight flat wide blade, that is pointed and very sharp at either edge. From the French *braquemart*. Urquhart's *Rabelais*, 1653: "With his great brackmard sword, laid such a load upon those runaways that ..."

AUTEXOUSY
(b) A quite unnecessary word for free will, invented by philosophers to show off their Greek. From the Greek words *autos* one's own + *exousia* power, authority.

BOUCON
(a) A bit or morsel, especially such a one as is empoisoned. The French word. A cookery book of 1706: "Boucons are Veal-stakes rolled up with thin fat slices of Bacon and Gammon."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 ... Qxd5; 2 Bxf6 Bb7! and after White meets the mate threat on g2, Black safely captures the white bishop on f6.

SKI REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Obergurgl	30	140	good	crusty	good	sun	0	5/2
(Pistes superb above Hochgurgl; good elsewhere)								
Schladming	20	40	fair	crust	art	fine	-1	6/2
(Plenty of enjoyable piste skiing; some hard spots)								
FRANCE								
Alpe d'Huez	100	250	good	varied	good	sun	0	5/2
(Generally very good; brilliant sunshine)								
La Clusaz	45	240	good	varied	slushy	sun	4	5/2
(Pistes still very good except lowest home runs)								
La Plagne	100	180	good	crusty	fair	sun	1	5/2
(Spring conditions in warm sunshine)								
Val d'Isère	90	200	good	varied	good	sun	4	5/2
(Very good skiing; excellent weather)								
ITALY								
Cervinia	100	380	good	varied	good	sun	2	5/2
(Snow holding well despite sunshine; good skiing)								
Livigno	85	180	good	varied	good	sun	-1	5/2
(Good skiing throughout; odd icy patch)								
SWITZERLAND								
C Montana	30	295	good	varied	worn	fine	3	5/2
(Upper slopes good but bare patches on lowest runs)								
Mürren	60	130	good	moguls	fair	fine	3	5/2
(Mostly good but some slopes worn/slushy)								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.

Heroes and villains, targets and near-myths

REVIEW

Lynne Truss

The title **Local Heroes** was always ironic, I suspect, for Adam Hart-Davis's excellent series on BBC2 about forgotten inventors (which ended last night). These Samuel Morlands and Hertha Ayrtons, though deeply associated with a particular place, were buried in time, and conspicuously l. king honour in their own land. Exceptionally, a housing development might be named after one of them, but mainly, far from following a trail of blue plaques, the plucky Hart-Davis usually found himself saying "On this exact spot, in 1823 . . ." and waving an arm without comment at a Tube station, or a pub called The Condom and Packet.

So local heroes these inventors were not, and I can't help remembering the depressing coda to last week's Alan Turing drama *Breaking the Code*, in which we learnt that a bypass in Birmingham was in recent times named after Turing by the city council, as a way of bestowing proper recognition at last. In a fug of exhaust, vehicles thundered unregarding past the little sign (ALAN TURING WAY), a breathtakingly inadequate tribute which seemed somehow to imply the question "Happy now?"

Sir Walter Scott fared better at the hand of history, but it wasn't luck. Oh no, Scott had the right idea: he showed history who was boss. As became clear in last night's *Ivanhoe*-related **Omnibus** (BBC1), if the Scottish people commemorate the novelist with fine, Gothic memorials and Waverley station (imagine a railway station in England called David Copperfield), it is because Scott paid them the compliment first, by concocting in his novels a fine, Gothic national character, all dressed up in the tartan. Whether Scott was much cop as a writer was prudently left aside. But his impact on the novel, on architecture and on "celticism"? Well, "immeasurable" — that was the word.

This *Omnibus* was a workaday kind of programme, but graced by sensible contributions. The historical novelist Philippa Gregory was superbly pithy. Meanwhile, at Abbotsford (the house Sir Walter built in baronial style), two elderly female descendants showed us the relics Scott collected — including, astonishingly, a piece of oatcake from the Battle of Culloden. "He felt he was holding the past in his hand," they explained. But what self-restraint this man of history showed, not to go the whole hog with the oatcake, and eat it.

Local heroes of a distinctly different sort in **Panorama** (BBC1), in which Fergal Keane returned to Rwanda, to update the Hutu massacres story. In the struggle between Hutus and Tutsis to prove which is the victim of the other, the Tutsis have no great writer to mythologise their story, so they have left the bodies where they fell in heaps — in a world of lies and cover-ups, a heap of martyred bodies is a simple and undeniable memorial. And of course, fly-blown corpses deliver hard-hitting images to current affairs producers, no matter what their journalism actually uncovers that is new.

Last night's *Panorama* didn't advance the Rwanda story much. Yes, the rest of the world let the Hutus kill nearly a million people in 100 days. Yes, the fleeing Hutus, including many murderers, were given sanctuary. Now they have returned, and the surviving Tutsis have to put up with it. We know all this. The only ostensible "peg" for this *Panorama* was that the unrepentant Hutu ringleader Frodouard Karamira was yesterday due to be sentenced for his crime.

As a reluctant cynic, I resist the attractive idea that the new stardom of Keane was a factor in choosing this subject for a full-length *Panorama*. But it's true that Keane has recently replaced Michael Buerk as the BBC's Voice of Weight and Pity. The big, investigative and finger-pointing Rwanda stories — concerning the supine role of the Church, or the negligence of the UN — have already been covered on telly in more incisive documentaries elsewhere. But while the corpses remain unburied (no explanation given for this, incidentally), there is plenty of simple weight and pity in the pictures for *Panorama* still to have a bash.

Talking of inadequate explanations, I got increasingly fed up with **Cutting Edge** (Channel 4) last night, because it never explained how the bail-bond system worked. Subject of the film was a British adrenalin-freak called Ted, who wore a pony-tail and dark glasses, and worked as a bounty hunter in America, tracking down villains who'd jumped bail. Ted had a tubby friend called Ron, who had once killed a man. Bounty hunting is a nasty job, glamorous only to people like Ted. It involves pointing guns at people's heads and not getting arrested for it. It involves grandly "taking them in", without all the bother of being a policeman.

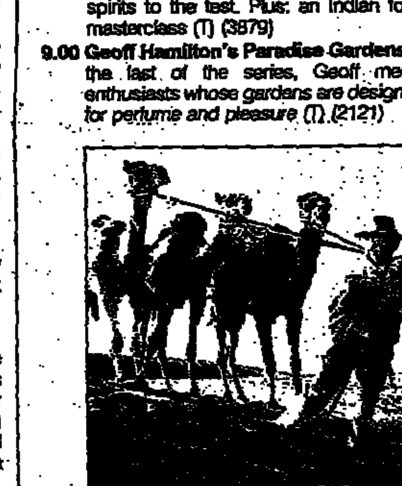
But how does the bail-bond system work? It only needed a sentence or two. I'm sure when I saw the film *Midnight Run* I understood it. A bail bonder puts up bail money, and then stands to lose it if the criminal skips court. So much is clear. But why does he put up the money in the first place? Why?

This was more of a "how" than a "why" film, however, following Ted and Ron's excellent adventure down the mean streets of Tacoma, bursting into cheesy flats and slapping cuffs on bewildered poor people. "I'm not in this business to hurt anybody," Ron upheld — and amazingly, you started to believe him. Ron went to church; he wept at the thought of the man he killed. Poor Ted bleached from view as Ron's moral stature grew, against all the odds. Save us, Ron! They may never name a freeway after you, but you are Tacoma's local hero, nevertheless.

6.00am Business Breakfast (40275)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (97362)
9.00 Breakfast News Extra (T) (8822411)
9.20 Style Challenge (1552850)
9.45 Kilroy (6827614)
10.30 *Can't Cook, Won't Cook* (64695)
11.00 News (T) (6403817)
11.05 The Really Useful Show (3477966)
11.35 Change That (5388695)
12.00 News (T) and weather (6405343)
12.05pm The Alphabet Game (5081411)
12.30 Going for a Song (7372546)
12.55 The Weather Show (34489492)
1.00 News (T) and weather (67121)
1.30 *Regional News* (98313275)
1.40 Neighbours (20982966)
2.05 Snowy River: The McGregor Saga (8267546)
2.50 Put It to the Test (2141121)
3.15 Wear It Well (2428614)
3.30 Playdays (1791256) **3.50** Casper Classics (2816817) **3.55** Hububb (7588121) **4.10** Prince of Atlantis (9888430) **4.35** The Mask (6389324) **5.00** Newsround (T) (7246492) **5.10** Grange Hill (1536966)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (544459)
6.00 News (T) and weather (140)
6.30 Newsroom South East (492)
7.00 Holiday The high life in France; on safari in Malawi; Nerja on the Costa del Sol; a disabled woman on a boating break; and traditional Cornish accommodation (T) (1922)
7.30 EastEnders Peggy and Kathy finally manage to resolve their dispute and Sarah meets a prospective convert (T) (904)
8.00 Children's Hospital Treating an eight-year-old boy with severe head injuries he sustained while hitching a ride on top of a speeding fire engine; a six-month-old baby with a club foot (T) (9430)
8.30 The Detectives Much to the staff's astonishment, Briggs is asked to be best man at a colleague's wedding (T) (5237)
9.00 News (T) and weather (1879)
9.30 Harry Enfield and Chums Well-performed, patchily scripted comedy sketches (T) (95053) **WALES: 9.30** Week In Week Out
10.00 Crimewatch UK (T) (723324)
10.45 CHOICE **Diary of a Princess** Unique film in which Diana, Princess of Wales, presents a personal view of her new role as humanitarian ambassador (T) (218091) **WALES: 10.45** Harry Enfield and Chums (218091) *11.15 Diary of a Princess* (215904) **11.45** Crimewatch UK Update (909430) **11.55** FILM: She's Having a Baby (661121) **1.35** News headlines and weather (2295928)
11.15 Crimewatch UK Update (112782)
11.25 *FILM: She's Having a Baby* (1988) with Kevin Bacon and Elizabeth McGovern. Domestic comedy drama about a naive young couple embarking on parenthood, as the husband becomes doubtful about his part in the relationship. Directed by John Hughes (621343)
1.05am Weather (7535251)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode™ numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+™ handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplus+ (™), Pluscode (™) and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

6.00am Open University: The York Mystery Plays (6793169) **6.25** Ouverture (6705904) **6.50** The Necessity for History (T) (5765850) **7.15** News (6859256) **7.30** *Secret Squirrel and Co* (1758850) **7.55** Blue Peter (r) (T) (7352695) **8.20** Johnson and Friends (r) (7721508) **8.35** The Record (9268527) **9.00** Standard Grade Modern Studies (8820053) **9.20** The History Collection (1550492) **9.45** Watch (3108411) **10.00** Playdays (51072) **10.30** Come Outside (7397689) *10.45* Teaching Today (498140) **11.15** *Le Club* (7569701) **11.30** Shakespeare: The Animated Tales (T) (3614) **12.00** See Hear! (r) (86817) **12.30pm** Working Lunch (13459) **1.00** Teaching Today (98091) **1.30** Showcase (98311817) **1.40** Hotch Potch House (11407459) **2.00** Johnson and Friends (22017922) **2.10** Everyone's Got One (9295492) **3.00** News (T) and weather (3800035) **3.05** Westminster with Nick Ross (2693546) **3.55** News (T) and weather (2606430) **4.00** Today's the Day (633) **4.30** Ready, Steady, Cook (817) **5.00** Esther (8188) **5.30** Ski Sunday Special (169) **6.00** The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air (534508)
6.25 Heartbreak High (T) (531782)
7.10 The O Zone (r) (907850)
7.25 Delia's Red Nose Collection The first of five Comic Relief recipes (r) (T) (386343)
7.30 The Numbers Game Fisher Dilke discovers how the hydrogen bomb was made possible by three Eastern Europeans (546)
8.00 Home Front (r) (T) (7072)
8.30 Food and Drink Chef David Wilson joins Michael Barry to prepare smoked haddock with potato, leeks and chive sauce. Jilly Goolden puts ready-mixed spirits to the test. Plus: an Indian food masterclass (T) (3879)
9.00 Geoff Hamilton's Paradise Gardens In the last of the series, Geoff meets enthusiasts whose gardens are designed *for perfume and pleasure* (T) (2121)



Benedict Allen strides out (9.30pm)

9.30 Skeleton Coast On the last leg of his epic journey, Benedict Allen walks into the hottest part of his 1,000-mile trek where he is forced to share his water ration with one of his camels (T) (93895)
10.00 Grown Ups Jim and Claire disagree about the prospect of another baby. Last in series (T) (87546)
10.30 *Newsnight* (T) (875411)
11.15 CHOICE **Face to Face: Roddy Doyle** talks about his childhood, football and fame to Jeremy Isaacs (117169)
12.00 The Midnight Hour (87560) **12.30am** The Learning Zone: Taking Off (31893) **1.00** Conics (34183) **1.30** Errors Aren't Forever (71102) **2.00** Moving to English (47763) **4.00** Teaching and Learning with IT (83855) **5.00** Inside Europe (53198) **5.30-5.59** Film Education (95589)

CHOICE

Seriously Funny:
Where There's a Fool There's a Phallus
Channel 4, 9.00pm

There may be people who see Ken Dodd's tickling stick as a phallic symbol. They apparently include Howard Jacobson, or he *would not use it in support of his thesis that* without the phallus there would be no comedy. That the proposition is questionable is beside Jacobson's point. He has got his big idea and he is determined to follow it through. Of course, there has been no shortage of phallic humour over the ages as Jacobson *proceeds to demonstrate, citing Aristophanes, church gargoyles and Barry* Humphries's Sir Les Patterson, to name but a few. Equally, there is much comedy with no sexual basis whatever and perhaps we will hear about this during the remainder of the series. But it could be that Jacobson is just trying to be provocative.

Network First: Igor —
The Boy Who Dared to Dream
ITV, 10.40pm (STV, 11.20pm)

Any documentary about Igor Pavlovets, the little boy from Belarus, is bound to be moving. The danger is slipping into *sentimentality. That this is largely avoided is partly due to the tact of the film-makers, but* mostly to the subject. Despite his handicaps, Igor is not one to complain or to seek pity. As a previous film related, he was born in the wake of the Chernobyl tragedy with one arm and stunted legs. Brought to England for medical treatment, he has been fostered by a couple in Surrey. We find him still hoping to lead a normal life, though experiments with *special boots and artificial limbs have been only partially successful. The climax of the programme* is a visit to Britain by Igor's elderly former nurse. It will be a difficult reunion. He has been trying to forget his past. She will bring it all back.

Diary of a Princess
BBC1, 10.45pm (NI: 12.05am, Wales: 11.15)

Diana, Princess of Wales, gets the chance to promote her new role as humanitarian ambassador with this personal account of her recent trip to Angola on behalf of the International Red Cross. During her four days in the country she met children *maimed* by *landmine explosions and stirred controversy* by calling for a worldwide ban on the use of such mines. The programme has been made by a crew from *Heart of the Matter*, the BBC's religious series. The footage will be mainly familiar from news reports transmitted at the time but the words are the Princess's own, delivered without the prompting of an interviewer. Her report *is* given in the form of a diary and includes her *response to seeing the injured children as* well as her *more general thoughts* about her work for good causes.

Face to Face
BBC2, 11.15pm

With his shaven head, earring and unstylish spectacles, Roddy Doyle may look more like a bovver boy than the author of *The Commitments, The Snapper* and *Paddy Clarke Ha! Ha! Ha!* His soft voice and modest demeanour may fit the stereotype better, even if it is at variance with the savagery of some of his writing. Faced with generally *untaxing questions from Sir Jeremy Isaacs*, Doyle is articulate, generous and funny. Although his fictional families are often at war, this seems to have come from imagination rather than experience. His own Dublin childhood was happy, he got on with his parents and his schooldays passed mainly without friction. He even enjoyed being a schoolteacher, which *he was for 14 years until he made the switch to writing full-time.*

Peter Waymark

6.00am GMTV (1473879)
9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (1577169)
9.55 Regional News (T) (5545633)
10.00 The Time, The Place (55898)
10.30 This Morning (T) (33898492)
12.20pm Regional News (T) (6401527)
12.30 News (T) *and weather* (7367614)
12.54 HTV Crimestoppers (34415817) **12.55** *Shortland Street* (7375633) **1.25** Home and Away (T) (15005256) **1.50** Afternoon Live (20997898) **2.20** Vanessa (T) (30896898) **2.50** Afternoon Live (5896140)
3.20 News (T) (9305625)
3.25 Regional News (T) (9674186)
3.30 Potamus Park (7503430) **3.40** Wizadora (9294492) **3.50** Bimble's Bucket (T) (9223904) **4.00** Scooby Doo (9893362) **4.20** Hey Arnold! (r) (T) (9879782) **4.45** Are You Afraid of the Dark? (6303904)
5.10 Getaways (r) (7853169)
5.40 News (T) and weather (787237)
6.00 Home and Away (554362)
6.25 HTV News (T) (829459)
7.00 Emmerdale Kelly finally forces Tom's hand (T) (5850)
7.30 Trouble with Kids Following a group of parents from Bristol who are all experiencing difficulties managing their children (512)
8.00 The Bill: True to Life Player A football star's triumphant return to Sun Hill is soured when he is accused of raping an under-age fan (T) (1898)
8.30 Pet Power Anthea Turner meets the horse which saved an elderly woman's life by raising the alarm; a dog which "listens" for its deaf owners (T) (3633)
9.00 Peak Practice Andrew is seriously injured *in a car crash but still battles to keep fellow motorists alive* (T) (6817)
10.00 News (T) and weather (74072)
10.30 Regional News (T) (592879)

Igor with his foster mum (10.40pm)

10.40 CHOICE **Network First: The Boy Who Dared to Dream** Update on Igor, a young victim of Chernobyl, who at nine years old dreams of being a normal able-bodied person. Tonight, we see how he refuses to acknowledge his Russian roots. (T) (340140)
11.40 *Highlander* (587140)
12.34am *Collins and Maconie's Movie Club* An offbeat review of the latest film and video releases (7635744)
1.05 *Ed's Night Party* (5202183)
1.30 *Late and Loud* (51638)
2.30 The Chart Show (r) (8460015)
3.25 Coach (r) (62468763)
3.50 Football Extra (r) (6940909)
4.30 The Time, The Place (r) (42102)
5.00 The Village Show (r) (97164)
5.30 News (82015)

As HTV West except:
12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (7375633)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (7853169)
6.25-7.00 Central News (829459)
7.30-8.00 Heart of the Country (512)
12.40am Collins and Maconie's Movie Club (5339454)
1.15 FILM: The President's Child (689657)
3.00 In Focus (6841947)
3.45 Football Extra (1580299)
4.25 *Central Jobfinder '97* (2316638)
5.20 *Asian Eye* (2734763)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:
12.20pm-12.30 Illuminations (6401527)
12.55-1.25 Wish You Were Here? (7375633)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (7853169)
6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (18904)
7.30-8.00 Wild West Country (512)
5.00am Freescreen (97164)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:
5.10pm-5.40 Home and Away (7853169)
6.00 Meridian Tonight (508)
6.30-7.00 Surprise Chefs (188)
7.30-8.00 Out of Town (512)
11.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (567140)
5.00am Freescreen (97164)

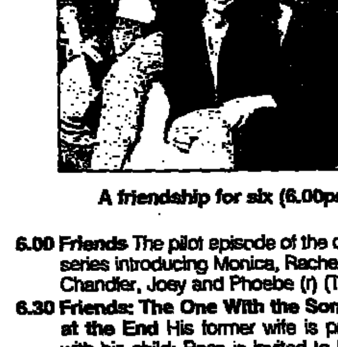
ANGLIA

As HTV West except:
12.19pm Anglia Air Watch (6413362)
12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (7375633)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (7853169)
6.25-7.00 Anglia News (829459)
7.30-8.00 Nurses (512)
10.29 Anglia Air Watch (689343)
11.40 Swift Justice (567140)

S4C

Starts: 6.00am Sesame Street (33985)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (80072)
9.00 Bewitched (51121)
9.30 Ysgolion (280121)
12.00 House to House (71985)
12.30pm Here's One I Made Earlier (92017)
1.00 Slot Meithrin (90459)
1.30 FILM: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn (1960). Mark Twain's classic starring Eddie Hodges in the title role (31188)
3.30 Montel Williams (966)
4.00 Fifteen-To-One (701)
4.30 TV Dinners (985)
5.00 5 Pump (3256)
5.30 Countdown (237)
6.00 Newyddion (178091)
6.05 Heno (532140)
6.35 Gair Am Aur (447633)
7.00 Pobol y Cwm (642411)
7.25 Dudley (403459)
7.55 Newyddion (359459)
8.00 Pacio (2140)
8.30 Newyddion (1275)
9.00 Cutting Edge (4459)
10.00 Brookside (198614)
10.35 Dark Skies (368546)
11.30 Seriously Funny (47237)
12.30am Hill Street Blues (8864541)
1.25 Naked Classics (5345015)

***6.00am* Sesame Street** (33985) **7.00** The Big Breakfast (80072) **9.00** Bewitched (51121) **9.30** Schools (T) (280121)
12.00 House to House (71985) **12.30pm** Here's One I Made Earlier (r) (92017) **1.00** Cybill (r) (T) (24610459) **1.25** Australia Wild (24688850)
1.55 FILM: The Reckless Moment (1949, b/w) with James Mason and Joan Bennett. While her husband is away, Lucia Harper becomes embroiled in deceit and blackmail. Directed by Max Ophuls (T) (18873121)
3.30 Collectors' Lot (T) (966) **4.00** Fifteen-To-One (T) (701) **4.30** Countdown (T) (985) **5.00** Ricki Lake (T) (3256) **5.30** Pet Rescue (T) (237)



A friendship for six (6.00pm)

6.00 Friends The pilot episode of the comedy series introducing Monica, Rachel, Ross, Chandler, Joey and Phoebe (r) (T) (850)
6.30 Friends: The One With the Sonogram at the End His former wife is pregnant with his child; Ross is invited to her first scan — along with her new, lesbian lover (r) (T) (448362)
6.55 Fresh Pop (483695)
7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (935017)
7.55 The People's Agenda (359459)
8.00 Wings A look at Britain's birds of prey including the eagle, which is beginning to be regarded as a menace by some landowners, while in Rutland Water, Leicestershire, concern is growing as ospreys are reintroduced into the wild (5/8) (T) (2140)
8.30 Brookside Rachel receives some good news (T) (1275)
9.00 CHOICE **Seriously Funny: Where There's A Fool, There's A Phallus** (2/5) *Howard Jacobson looks at humour's sexual origins* (T) (4459)
10.00 FILM: Liar, Liar (1992) *A Canadian made-for-television drama with Art Hindle as a father accused of incest by his 11-year-old daughter.* Directed by Jorge Montesi (T) (200614)
11.45 Film Night magazine (5/10) (256782)
12.20am FILM: The Cincinnati Kid (1965) with Steve McQueen and Edward G. Robinson. An ambitious young poker player is challenged to a game by a veteran player. Directed by Norman Jewison (602676)
2.15 FILM: Baby the Rain Must Fall (1965, b/w) A drama with Steve McQueen as a parole prisoner trying to keep on the right side of the law in a small Texas town. Directed by Robert Mulligan (142251)
4.00 Family Remains A black comedy (r) (9522229)
4.35 Fugitive Love (r) (21582218)
4.50 Snow (r) (45522386)
5.20 Almost Complete History of the 20th Century (r) (T) (2732305)
5.30 Backdate (r) (T) (80657)

● For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory, published on Saturday

SKY 1

6.00am Morning Glory (696053) **9.00** Designing Women (13985) **9.30** Designing Women (53275) **10.00** Another World (32459) **11.00** Days of Our Lives (12695) **12.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (49698) **1.00pm** Geraldo (58546) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (70121) **3.00** Jenny Jones (41782) **4.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (60817) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (7237) **6.00** Real TV (2492) **6.30** Married — with Children (60372) **7.00** The Simpsons (8966) **7.30** M*A*S*H (2256) **8.00** Walker's World (7614) **8.30** Real TV UK (6121) **9.00** Picket Fences (77635) **10.00** Unsolved Mysteries (70792) **11.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (33188) **12.00** LAPD (10812) **12.30am** The Lucy Show (38873) **1.00** Hit Mix (60589)

SKY 2

7.00pm Hercules: The Legendary Journeys (8730904) **8.00** Xena: Warrior Princess (5770324) **9.00** Pacific Blue (5792188) **10.00** Models Inc (5795275) **11.00** Late Show with David Letterman (5054072) **12.00** Hit Mix Long Play (7558299)

SKY NEWS

Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour 24 hours a day, seven days a week

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Phase IV (1973) (1717614) **7.25 Running Free** (1994) (54262275) **9.00 In Like Flint** (1967) (51237) *11.00 The Giant of Thunder Mountain* (1990) (70721099) **12.40pm Rustler's Rhapsody** (1985) (3319879) **2.10 Hercules** (1983) (176411) **4.00 800 Leagues Down the Amazon** (1994) (3168) **6.00 Between Love and Honour** (1994) (31898) **8.00 Terminal Voyage** (1994) (85343) **10.00 Surviving the Game** (1994) (118359) **11.40 The Life and Extraordinary Adventures of Private Chonkin** (1994) (703546) **1.30am The Carpetbaggers** (1964) (94722744) **3.55 Reality Bites** (1994) (43836812)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.35am When Willie Comes Marching Home (1950) (4761074) **8.00 Robotic Home: The Movie** (1993) (92343) **10.00 The Roots of Heaven** (1958) (77298898) **12.10 Bernadine** (1957) (288695) **2.00pm Say One for Me** (1959) (92904) **4.00 Robotic: The Movie** (1993) (3411) **6.00 Brothers' Destiny** (1995) (95237) **7.30 Special Feature: She's the One** (5966) **8.00 Legends of the Fall** (1995) (56439362) **10.15 Black Scorpion** (1995) (379343) **11.50 Greedy** (1994) (781324) **1.45am No-One Could Protect Her** (1995) (478763) **3.20 Sparrow** (1994) (637164) **5.10 Brothers' Destiny** (1995) (9791367)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm It Started in Naples (1960) (8462850) **8.00 Roman Holiday** (1953) (8474695) **10.00 Avanti!** (1972) (14185817) **12.25am Youngblood** (1986) (1884560) **2.15 The Return of Mickey Spillane's Mike Hammer** (1986) (9336725) **3.55-5.30 Father of the Bride** (1950) (5755909)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous cartoons from 5am to 9pm, then TNT films as follows: **9.00pm Forbidden Planet** (1956) (28871140) **11.00 Singin' in the Rain** (1952) (86214188) **12.45am The Swordsman of Siena** (1961) (37213270) **2.30-5.00 The Treasure of Monte Cristo** (1961) (50076034)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movies Gold takes over at 10pm.
6.00am Mouse Tracks (9227782) **6.25** Quack Attack (9248817) **6.50** Bonkers (3668430) **7.15** The Little Mermaid (8887614) **7.40** *Aladdin* (1891904) **8.05** Goof Troop (7917275) **8.30** Timon and Pumbaa (6278879) **8.40** The Care Bears (4544430) **9.10** Grounding Marsh (5982817) **9.40** Big Garage (4864237) **9.55** *Lamb Chop's Play Along* (4911362) **10.25** Muppet Babies (6815904) **10.50** Dumbo's Circus (2883131) **11.20** Mouse Tracks (9096614) **11.50** *Under the Umbrella Tree* (4914817) **12.20pm** *Timon and Pumbaa* (2402695) **12.35** The Little Mermaid (4934966) **1.00** Flipper (9595904) **1.45** Aladdin (67469546) **2.10** Darkwing Duck (77276492) **2.35** Bonkers (1184695) **3.00** Quack Attack (8956898) **3.25** Timon and Pumbaa (2805256) **3.35** Goof Troop (1003633) **4.00** Tuesday is Chooceday (5817) **6.00** *Flash Forward* (1343) **6.30** Boy Meets World (2695) **7.00** Dave's World (6782) **7.30** **FILM: Ava's Magical Adventure** (84594) **9.00** Tarzan (44817) **9.30-10.00** Golden Girls (35508)

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Three Little Ghosts (7620053) **6.30** Inspector Gadget (9063633) **7.00** Samurai Pizza Cats (5045324) **7.30** Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (5064459) **8.00** Masked Rider (5792614) **8.30** Crocadoo (6731985) **9.00** Bimba's Island (1174492) **9.25** Zoobilee Zoo (4721508) **9.45** Why Why Family (1016237) **10.00** Pinocchio (9054985) **10.30** Billy the Cat (5711121) **11.00** Princess Starla and the Jewel Riders (4231256) **11.30** Bumpety Boo (4232985) **12.00** Bimba's Island (89484140) **12.25pm** Zoobilee Zoo (91508362) **12.45** Why Why Family (49408985) **1.00** Pinocchio (5044695) **1.30** Billy the Cat (9003985) **2.00** Three Little Ghosts (5225614) **2.30** Inspector Gadget (3329817) **3.00** Samurai Pizza Cats (5204121) **3.30** Ace Ventura (3324362) **4.00** Casper (3310169) **4.30** Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (3309053) **5.00** Masked Rider (5216966) **5.30** Spiderman (3323633) **6.00** Goosebumps (3320546) **6.30-7.00** Sweet Valley High (3311898)

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre Wembley Countdown (80904) **8.00** Tartan Extra (67695) **8.30** Racing News (66966) **9.00** European PGA Golf: South African Open (45459) **11.00** High Five (84411) **11.30** Tartan Extra (85140) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (60782) **12.30pm** Scottish Football (25985) **2.30** World Motor Sport (23430) **4.30** Tartan Extra (7508) **4.59** Sports Centre (6226362) **5.00** Wrestling (5411) **6.00** Sports Centre Wembley Countdown (29686) **7.00** Ringside Boxing (434140) **10.00** *Sports Centre Wembley Countdown* (34804) **11.00** Footballers' Football Show (42850) **12.00** Ringside Boxing (5038299) **3.00am-4.00** Sports Centre (25251)

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Sports Unlimited (86471411) **1.00pm** NBA Basketball (97349140) **3.00** Ice Hockey (12559430) **5.00** World of Speed and Beauty (86925430) **5.30** Waterski Tour (21313237) **6.00** Sports Unlimited (86477695) **7.00** NBA Basketball (29731898) **9.00** Ice Hockey (28860898) **11.00-11.30** Waterski Tour (65598904)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Swimming (33492) **9.00** Speedworld (30527) **11.00** Eurogoals (56053) **12.00** Skiing: Women's Super-G — Live (63029) **1.00pm** Funsports (19817) **2.00** Athletics: Tampere Indoor (21879) **3.00** Biathlon (81324) **4.00** Ski-Jumping World Cup (74689) *5.00 Skiing: World Championships* (7879) **6.00** Motors (86053) **7.00** Strongman (20701) **8.00** Boxing — Live (17237) **10.00** Football: World Cup Qualifying (29072) *11.00 Equestrianism* (77545) **12.00-12.30am** Luge (50454)

The thrills and spills of white knuckle rides (9.00pm, Discovery)

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am *Krypton Factor* (9178594) **6.30** It's Fun to Read (80912188) **6.45** Magic Ball (41757966) **7.00** Alphabet Zoo (7110850) **7.15** It's Fun to Read (4171614) **7.30** Ghosts of Motley Hall (3161695) **8.00** Classic Coronation Street (2869411) **8.30** Families (2868782) **9.00** Dempsey and Makepeace (3871102) **10.00** On the Buses (8852782) **10.30** Brass (2888546) **11.00** Within These Walls (3170343) **12.00** Classic Coronation Street (2879898) **12.30pm** Families (6165071) **1.00** Crown Court Special (3191459) **1.30** Krypton Factor (7515512) **2.00** *Bust* (8853411) **3.00** Travelling Man (2204701) **4.00** Doctor Series: In Charge 1 (6369904) **4.30** On the Buses (6395188) **5.00** Dempsey and Makepeace (3052169) **6.00** Classic Coronation Street (6346053) **6.30** Families (6360633) **7.00** Doctor Series: In Charge 1 (9053898) **7.30** Brass (6966817) **8.00** Travelling Man (1144140) **9.00** Classic Coronation Street (5857362) *9.35 Good Life Guide* (4268614) **10.00-11.00** Dempsey and Makepeace
From 11.00pm-2.00am Men and Motors

GRANADA GOOD LIFE

From **6.00am-9.00** TV High Street
From **9.00-12.00** Food and Wine
From **12.00-3.00pm** Health and Beauty
From **3.00-6.00** Home and Garden

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm *Biography: Jayne Mansfield* (3988459) **5.00** History Alive (4717072) **6.00** Our Century: Vietnam — the 10,000 Day War (3453633) **7.00-8.00** Biography: *Davy Crockett* (1531508)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

8.00pm Amazing Stories (4794121) **8.30** James Doohan in the Twilight Zone (4713256) **9.00** *Secrets of the Paranormal* (3977343) **9.30** The Web (1773898) **10.30** The New Edge (3301643) **11.00** The Invaders (5250387) **12.00** The Incredible Hulk (8205270) ***1.00am*** *The Twilight Zone* (6274522) **1.30** Tales of the Unexpected (2101454) **2.00** 100 Years of Horror (8494744) **2.30** Night Gallery (9473251) **3.00-4.00** Friday the 13th (3311305)

TLC/DISCOVERY

9.00am The Joy of Painting (2196362) **9.30** Grow Your Own (7206017) **10.00** Surprise Chefs (7239459) **10.30** Our House (2194546) **11.00** The Painted House (7396879) *11.30 This Old House* (7397508) **12.00** Sweet Things (2185898) **12.30pm** Graham Kerr (3606053) **1.00** Today's Gourmet (1711121) **1.30** Home Again (4056594) **2.00** Hometime (5091782) **2.30** Furniture to Go (2902614) **3.00** Two's Country (5010817) **3.30-4.00** This Old House (2914459)
DISCOVERY takes over at 4.00pm.
4.00pm Fishing Adventures II (2993966) *4.30 Bush Tucker Man* (2982850) **5.00** Connections 2 (5015382) **5.30** Beyond 2000 (2906430) **6.00** Wild Things (8751102) **7.00** Beyond 2000 (5002898) **7.30** *Mysterious Forces Beyond* (2990875) **8.00** Weapons of the Gods (3374481) **9.00** Extreme Machines (9974825) **10.00** Heaven's Breath (6724102) **11.00** Professionals (1738898) **12.00** Seawings (9009367) **1.00am** Roadshow (5710831) **1.30-2.00** World of Adventures (4811164)

UK GOLD

7.00am Tellystack (7068614) **7.55** Neighbours (3649459) **8.00** Crossroads (9768072) **8.25** EastEnders (2237558) **9.00** *The Bill* (2157492) **9.30** Breakfast with the Boswells (5406035) **10.00** Never the Twain (7231817) **10.30** The Sullivans (2196904) **11.00** Kinsey (1742091) **12.00** Crossroads (2187256) **12.30pm** Neighbours (1808071) **1.00** EastEnders (9178188) **1.35** The Liver Birds (6618508) **2.15** After the Show (61273459) **2.30** Singer's Day (2904072) **3.00** Tellystack (5012275) *3.30 The Bill* (2916817) **4.00** All Creatures Great and Small (7312817) **5.00** Bob's Full House (5443614) **5.40** Crossroads (6163237) **6.05** EastEnders (3347701) **6.40** *Bruce Forsyth's Generation Game* (61866817) **7.50** Are You Being Served? (6102121) **8.30** Russ Abbot (5092411) **9.00** The Bill (7301701) **9.30** Boon (90274898) **10.35** *Love Thy Neighbour* (9357275) **11.10** The Best of Top of the Pops (2043324) **11.40 FILM: What's Good for the Goose** (1882891) **1.30am** Oppenheimer (3388612) **2.30** Shopping

TCC

6.00am Hallway Across the Galaxy and Turn Left (85898) **6.30** Ocean Odyssey (59607) **7.00** Escape from Jupiter (37275) **7.30** Flash Gordon (16782) **8.00** Batman (23445) **8.30** Dennis the Menace (73966) **9.00** Earthworm Jim (22546) **9.30** Bobby's World (40490) **10.00** Romuald the Reindeer (97169) **10.30** Iznogoud (11430) **11.00** Danger Mouse (37527) **11.30** Gravedale High (38256) **12.00** Oscar's Orchestra (73922) **12.30pm** Art Attack (51546) **1.00** Road to Avonlea (49701) **2.00** Ocean Odyssey (8140) **2.30** Escape from Jupiter (3188) **3.00** Batman (7275) **3.30** Flash Gordon (8633) **4.00** *Earthworm Jim* (7140) **4.30-5.00** Dennis the Menace (3324)

NICKELODEON

6.00am Turtles (30324) *6.30 Biker Mice* (35072) **7.00** Captain Simian (64072) **7.30** The Cryptkeeper (50879) **8.00** Bruno the Kid (65237) **8.30** Hey Arnold! (64508) **9.00** *Rugrats* (88188) **9.30** *Rugrats* (82492) **10.00** Aaahh! Real Monsters (26324) **10.30** Doug (77072) **11.00** Rocko (82053) **11.30** Bailey Kipper (83782) **12.00** *Kenan and Kel* (68324) **12.30pm** Alex Mack (93508) **1.00** Sister Sister (63343) **1.30** Moesha (92879) **2.00** The Ferals (5966) **2.30** Wishbone (8614) *3.00 Stickin' Around* (2701) **3.30** Aaahh! Real Monsters (4689) **4.00** Hey Arnold! (9966) **4.30** Hey Arnold! (8850) **5.00** Hey Arnold! (4546) **5.30** Hey Arnold! (2430) **6.00** Press Gang (8343) **6.30-7.00** Are You Afraid of the Dark? (4445)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm *Entertainment UK* (4782) **7.30** Roseanne (6879) **8.00** Roseanne (3430) **8.30** Monty Pythons' Flying Circus (9237) **9.00** *Cheers* (74607) **9.30** *Taxi* (55512) **10.00** Garry Shandlings (89053) **10.30** Frasier (78701) **11.00** Modern Problems in Science (24102) **11.30** Monty Pythons' Flying Circus (22508) **12.00** The Critic (63929) **12.30am** Soap (17251) **1.00** Cheers (12855) **1.30** Taxi (12454) **2.00** Entertainment UK (34251) **2.30** Modern Problems in Science (53386) **3.00** Frasier (68541) **3.30-4.00** Garry Shandlings

BRAVO

8.00pm RoboCop (9774427) **9.00** The New Twilight Zone (7303169) **9.30** The New *Twilight Zone* (9101643) **10.00** *Tour of Duty* (2124146) **11.00 FILM: A Time to Kill** (4851782) **1.00am** RoboCop (7790198) **2.00** Tour of Duty (6030034) **3.00 FILM: A Time to Kill** (2068657) **5.00** The New *Twilight Zone* (9005541) **5.30** The New Twilight Zone (5107034)

UK LIVING

6.00am Tiny Living (8235140) **9.00** *Gladrags and Glamour* (2275985) **9.10** Gabrielle (1643850) **10.05** Jerry Springer (3204237) **11.00** Young and the Restless (5305324) *11.55 Brookside* (64551275) **12.25pm** Call the Doctor (54053343) **12.55** Tempest (1282411) **1.40** Gordon Elliott (9760898) **2.30** *Agony Experience* (4547256) **3.00** Live at Three (64821256) **4.05** Jerry Springer (4481481) **5.05** Lingo (66357053) **5.30** Lucky Ladders (4541072) **6.00** I Dream of Jeannie (8829411) **6.35** Ready, Steady, Cook (1937508) **7.05** Brookside (1004169) **7.40** Who's Sorry Now? (2413527) **8.05** Rolonda (4399188) **9.00 FILM: Streets of Dreams** (8471508) **11.00-12.00** Spicy Sex Files (9246099)

CHALLENGE TV

5.00pm Prize Time (6141237) **5.05** Blockbusters (1422904) **5.35** Challenge Prize Time (500140) **5.50** Spellbound (413140) *6.20 Prize Time* (713017) **6.30** Catchphrase (303850) **6.55** Prize Time (939324) **7.05** Sale of the Century (487546) **7.30** Prize Time (978633) *7.40 Gives Us a Clue* (281459) **8.10** Prize Time (103492) **8.20** All Clued Up (323169) **8.50** Prize Time (116492) **9.00** Through the Keyhole (864614) **9.25** Challenge Prize Time (768481) **9.35** Busman's Holiday (558343) **10.00** Prize Time (130527) **10.05** Treasure Hunt (786940) *11.05 Prize Time* (199966) **11.20** Love at First Sight (579053) **11.45** Prize Time (446411) **12.00** Sale of the Century (85182) **12.30am** Hart to Hart (83299) **1.30** *Lou Grant* (88744) **2.30** Snowy River — the McGregor Saga (41386) **3.30** All Together Now (82812) **4.00-5.00** The Fall Guy (29635)

ZEE TV

7.00am Jaagran **7.30** News **8.00** Gaane Anjaane **8.30** Business **9.00** ZEE Thrai **10.00** Hasley Bastey **10.30** Hero Kal Aaj Aur Kal **11.00** Khoobsurat **11.30** Naaye Taraane **12.00** Sailaab **12.30pm** Wah Janaab **1.00 FILM: Anokha Moodh** **4.00** Mr Minloo **4.30** Aahsa **5.00** ZEE Zone **5.30** Hum Zamsen **6.00** Dance Mania **6.30** ZEE and You **7.00** V3 **7.30** Chalo Cinema **8.00** News **8.30** Daraar **9.00** Jaal **9.30** Abhinetri **10.00** Tara **11.00-12.00** Sa Re Ga Ma

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هكذا من الاصل

TENNIS 45
Henman succumbs to Sinner in first-round upset

SPORT

SNOOKER 46
Son's words set Davis on path to long-awaited title

Doubts over England captaincy recede after emphatic victory in second Test

Victory strengthens Atherton's grip

FROM ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT
IN WELLINGTON

WELLINGTON (final day of five): England beat New Zealand by an innings and 68 runs

MICHAEL ATHERTON has won three overseas Tests as the England captain. The first two, in Barbados and Adelaide, were glamorous, improbable and largely irrelevant. Victory yesterday, in more prosaic surroundings here, was of far greater significance, for, in all probability, it has enabled a series to be won and a leadership regime to be saved.

Nobody in authority needs publicly to contemplate what would have happened if the result had been different and England had likewise failed in Christchurch, where the third and final Test starts on Thursday. All of them know that they might have been looking for new jobs.

This was the measure of England's emphatic, merited win and the impact of a compassionate turn in the fickle weather of this harbour city. If the rain that robbed this game of a day and greeted the players at breakfast yesterday had not relented in time, Atherton's hold on the captaincy would now be slight.

Unless the unthinkable happens and England subside in Christchurch, he can instead begin planning for the summer series against Australia. Atherton's abiding ambition is to win an Ashes series and he will now have the opportunity, judged by a ringing endorsement yesterday from Lord MacLaurin of Knebworth, the chairman of the England and Wales Cricket Board.

"Michael is a very strong character and a great captain," MacLaurin said. "I am more than pleased for him today and I am excited about going on working with him." There could be no plainer confirmation that the vote of the most powerful voice in the game will be raised in Atherton's support, and he will receive no argument from anyone within the England camp.

Even in his darkest hours of this winter, when his batting had regressed to awkwardness and his demeanour had grown negative, Atherton had a devoted following in the dressing-room. Now that the elusive Test win has been secured, the strength of that following is being emphasised.

Darren Gough, whose withering burst of quick swing bowling just before lunch gained him four wickets for ten and brought New Zealand to the brink, spoke for the team. "Everyone respects Michael," Gough said. "He gives us all confidence. He is a great captain."

It is, of course, facile to believe that anything much has changed through a single Test victory. England's cricket has not become mighty overnight, nor have the ills of the domestic system become any less serious. What this overdue result achieved was breathing space for a captain and a group of players who had suffered more than they deserved from the condemnation that will naturally follow a failure to win when it is expected.

David Lloyd, the coach, said: "It's an enormous relief, a sweet feeling for them all. I haven't felt pressure this winter, but I have felt disappointment. Everyone knows that criticism has been bouncing around, but it is my defiant belief that we had the upper hand in each of the Tests on tour and that we could easily have won them all. The lads were a bit touchy this morning, with the rain around, but we calmed them down, told them not to panic."

Lloyd, too, was generous in his praise of Atherton. Rightly, he identified areas of outstanding captaincy during this game, not least the decision to take Dominic Cork off after just two indifferent overs with the new ball. Gough, duly summoned, decided the game within the next half-hour.

England had already suffered some frustrations. The rain had returned overnight and play was delayed for the third day out of five. A dry interlude permitted a start only 30 minutes late and the umpires allowed play to continue through steady drizzle. For almost an hour, however, the New Zealand fifth-wicket pair resisted doggedly.

The spinners were hampered by a wet ball, influencing Atherton to take the new one immediately. It was five overs old when Gough swaggered in against the wind and broke through with his fourth ball, Germon jabbing ineptly at an inswinger and squirting the ball on to his leg stump. In his next over, without addition, Gough brought a rare indiscretion from Pocock and the first of Knight's three slip catches ended the opener's 338-minute vigil.

Close catching was a feature of this England win. When Astle drove rashly at Gough, Stewart took off to his right to pluck the ball in front of first slip. Three balls later Doull edged to Knight and New Zealand went to lunch with eight wickets down, just as they had done before their remarkable escape in Auckland. "It was in our minds," Gough said. "Everyone will say it wasn't, but it niggled at us."

He need not have worried. Caddick, who had bowled magnificently before lunch, finally received recognition to finish the job half an hour into the afternoon.

His line had been consistent, his bounce constantly disturbing and the need to keep him out an immeasurable help to Gough. Now he took wickets, a leg-stump yorker dismissing Allott and a brutally lifting ball taking the glove of Cairns on its way to Knight.

Caddick finished with match figures of six for 85 and bowled every bit as well as Gough, who took nine for 92. In the buzz-words preached by Lloyd, they bowled with "menace" and "intensity" that, supported by the comforting teaming of two spinners, was altogether too much for a feeble New Zealand batting order.

The England supporters — the majority of the crowd — sang and chanted in front of the pavilion. For them, too, it has been a long wait for an overseas win and they meant to celebrate it. England, however, have now won five and lost none of their past nine Tests against New Zealand. Both here and in Auckland, they have looked leagues apart.

"It's been a frustrating winter," Atherton said, "but the most important thing all along has been the level of performance. I have consistently said that our Test-match performances have been good and that, eventually, the win would come." For Atherton, as he well knows, it came not a minute too soon.

PHOTOGRAPHS: GRAHAM CHADWICK AND CLIVE MASON / ALLSPORT

Gough, left, who took nine wickets in the match, celebrates England's triumph over New Zealand in exuberant fashion, while Atherton can afford a relaxed smile

Parore pays price for home side's failure

FROM ALAN LEE

ENGLAND have known it too often from the mute and miserable end to feel any sympathy, but the contrast in the dingy tunnels that border the Basin Reserve dressing-rooms was stark yesterday. One room throbbed to singing, shouting and the percussion of champagne corks, but it was the silence of the other that was deafening.

One by one, grim-faced New Zealand players took their leave, knowing that they had done themselves no justice and that their public is outraged by stories of a late night out during a Test match that was lost heavily. For once, the England players can enjoy the disapproval being directed elsewhere.

"There has been a lot of talk about nights out during this game," David Lloyd, the England coach, said. "Well, I can tell you, we'll be going out tonight and we'll be enjoying it." The opposition did not look in the mood to join the party.

New Zealand cricket is in a mess. Disciplinary problems have followed the team for some years now and often the players at the centre of the allegations have been Chris Cairns and Adam Parore. It was Cairns who reputedly got in at 4am on Saturday. He has consistently been named as the culprit on the radio phone-ins that dominate daytime listening in this part of the world. The public, it seems, is turning against him — an irony considering that Cairns's profile was thought responsible for the recent removal as coach of Glenn Turner, a disciplinarian who had sought to bring his most charismatic player into line.

Cairns, however, survives in the squad for the final Test, in Christchurch, that begins on Thursday. Parore is not so lucky. After totalling 58 runs in four innings, he has been dropped and replaced by the uncapped Matt Horne, who made 64 against England in Wanganui two weeks ago. This is the only change in the New Zealand side, but there will need to be a considerable change in their approach if the series is to be saved.

NEW ZEALAND: L Germon (captain), B Pocock, B Young, M Horne, S Fleming, C Harris, N Astle, C Cairns, D Patel, S Doull, G Allott, D Vettori.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 1014

ACROSS
1 Use a straw (4)
5 Modern Byzantium (8)
8 Obscuring of eg sun by moon (7)
10 Rap on door (5)
11 Arguments on both sides (4,3,4)
13 Not often (6)
15 Made of flowers (6)
17 City and university (4,3,4)
20 Ring-tailed animal (5)
21 Fastest big cat (7)
22 Expressing in words: shaping in music (8)
23 Incentive (4)

DOWN
1 Abashed, shy (8)
2 Knee-held instrument (5)
4 Regular, firm (6)
5 Accept; confirm receipt (11)
6 Non-purchaser in bookshop (7)
7 Body of water; a pigment (4)
9 Pun (4,2,5)
12 Decisive argument (8)
14 Bishop burnt with Cranmer (7)
16 High-kick chorus-line dance (6)
18 (Available) without limit (2,3)
19 Piece of film; fastener (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1013

ACROSS: 1 Wide 3 Stalled 8 Instant 9 Order 10 Siren 11 Languid 13 Badminton 17 Woe is me 19 Rated 20 Tacky 22 Inferno 23 Harlech 24 Plot

DOWN: 1 Whimsy 2 Desirable 3 Satellite dish 4 Acorn 5 LSD 6 Deride 7 Pained 12 Unnatural 14 Tariff 15 Twitch 16 Adroit 18 Style 21 Car

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FULL WELLINGTON SCOREBOARD

New Zealand won toss

NEW ZEALAND: First Innings
B A Young c Stewart b Gough ..... 8 (40min, 29 balls)
B A Pocock c Cork b Caddick ..... 8 (34min, 22 balls)
A C Parore c Stewart b Gough ..... 4 (15min, 5 balls, 1 four)
S P Fleming c and b Caddick ..... 1 (25min, 19 balls)
N J Astle c Croft b Gough ..... 36 (118min, 90 balls, 3 fours)
C L Cairns c Hussain b Gough ..... 3 (4min, 6 balls)
*†L K Germon c Stewart b Caddick ..... 10 (46min, 27 balls)
D N Patel c Cork b Caddick ..... 45 (99min, 66 balls, 6 fours)
S B Doull c Stewart b Gough ..... 0 (2 min, 2 balls)
G I Allott c Knight b Cork ..... 1 (31min, 18 balls)
D Vettori not out ..... 3 (13min, 10 balls)
Extras (lb 5, nb 2) 7
Total (48.3 overs, 219min) 124

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-14 (Young 8), 2-18 (Parore 4), 3-19 (Fleming 1), 4-19 (Astle 0), 5-23 (Astle 0), 6-48 (Astle 13), 7-85 (Patel 11), 8-85 (Patel 11), 9-106 (Patel 31).

BOWLING: Cork 14-4-34-1; Caddick 18.3-5-45-4, Gough 16-6-40-5.

ENGLAND: First Innings
N V Knight c Patel b Doull ..... 6 (12min, 10 balls, 1 four)
*M A Atherton lbw b Doull ..... 30 (95min, 70 balls, 3 fours)
†A J Stewart c Fleming b Allott ..... 52 (122min, 86 balls, 6 fours)
N Hussain c Young b Vettori ..... 64 (139min, 159 balls, 1 six, 8 fours)
G P Thorpe st Germon b Patel ..... 108 (329min, 249 balls, 12 fours)
J P Crawley c Germon b Doull ..... 56 (187min, 141 balls, 1 six, 4 fours)
D G Cork lbw b Astle ..... 7 (59min, 45 balls)
R D B Croft c Fleming b Doull ..... 0 (6min, 4 balls)
D Gough c Fleming b Doull ..... 18 (47min, 34 balls, 3 fours)
A R Caddick c Astle b Vettori ..... 20 (24min, 18 balls, 2 fours)
P C R Tufnell not out ..... 6 (21min, 14 balls)
Extras (b 3, lb 9, nb 2) 14
Total (137.3 overs, 550min) 383

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-10 (Atherton 2), 2-80 (Stewart 41), 3-106 (Hussain 14), 4-213 (Thorpe 52), 5-331 (Crawley 56), 6-331 (Cork 0), 7-331 (Croft 0), 8-357 (Gough 18), 9-357 (Caddick 0).

BOWLING: Doull 28-10-75-5; Allott 31-6-91-1, Vettori 34.3-10-98-2; Cairns 4-2-8-0; Astle 14-5-30-1; Patel 24-6-69-1; Pocock 2-0-10-0.

NEW ZEALAND: Second Innings
B A Pocock c Knight b Gough ..... 64 (335min, 271 balls, 5 fours)
B A Young c Stewart b Tufnell ..... 56 (132min, 103 balls, 6 fours)
A C Parore lbw b Croft ..... 15 (116min, 94 balls)
S P Fleming c and b Croft ..... 0 (10min, 11 balls)
D N Patel lbw b Croft ..... 0 (5min, 2 balls)
*†L K Germon b Gough ..... 11 (58min, 49 balls)
N J Astle c Stewart b Gough ..... 4 (28min, 13 balls)
C L Cairns c Knight b Caddick ..... 22 (61min, 59 balls, 3 fours)
S B Doull c Knight b Gough ..... 0 (2min, 3 balls)
G I Allott b Caddick ..... 2 (25min, 15 balls)
D L Vettori not out ..... 2 (14min, 7 balls)
Extras (b 5, lb 4, nb 6) 15
Total (103.2 overs, 398min) 191

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-89 (Pocock 28), 2-125 (Pocock 45), 3-125 (Pocock 45), 4-125 (Pocock 45), 5-161 (Pocock 64), 6-164 (Astle 3), 7-175 (Cairns 10), 8-175 (Cairns 10), 9-182 (Cairns 15).

BOWLING: Cork 10-1-42-0 (nb 2; 4 fours; 4-1-20-0, 4-0-14-0, 2-0-8-0); Caddick 27.2-11-40-2 (2 fours; 6-3-7-0, 5-1-15-0, 5-3-3-0, 11.2-4-15-2); Croft 20-9-19-3 (nb 1; 5-1-6-0, 15-8-13-3); Gough 22-9-52-4 (7 fours; 4-2-11-0, 8-4-16-0, 2-1-4-0, 9-2-21-4); Tufnell 23-9-29-1 (nb 4; 1 four; 2-1-3-0, 10-3-11-1, 4-1-4-0, 7-4-11-0).

SCORING NOTES: Fifth day: Lunch: 177-8 (95 overs, 369min; Cairns 12, Allott 0). Second new ball: 147-4 (81 overs) at 11.27am.

England won by an innings and 68 runs
Match award: G P Thorpe.
Umpires: S A Bucknor (West Indies) and D B Cowie. Third umpire: E A Watkin.
Match referee: P J P Burge (Australia).
SERIES DETAILS: First Test (Auckland): Match drawn. Test to come: Third (Christchurch) February 14 to 18.
☐ *Compiled by Bill Frindall*

Taylor warns of League collapse

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

GORDON TAYLOR, the chief executive of the Professional Footballers' Association, warned yesterday that the structure of the Football League could be in danger of collapse. His comments came in the wake of Millwall, the struggling Nationwide League second division club, dismissing Jimmy Nicholl, the manager, and 19 other members of staff.

David Buchler and Lee Manning, the joint administrators, who were called in a month ago, have also transfer-listed 12 players and asked for a 10 per cent reduction in wages from those left at the New Den. Graham Horlop, the club's chief executive, was also asked to leave yesterday.

Taylor, though, is more concerned at the wider implications, with Bournemouth, of the second division, in receivership and Darlington, of the third division, experiencing financial difficulties. "The base of the professional pyramid is beginning to crumble while the top is covered in gold," he said. "Perhaps there needs to be more liaison between clubs. I'm sure those in the Football League would give their fullest co-operation."

Millwall's cutbacks are expected to save about £1.5 million a year. "There have had to be some hard decisions, but they have been necessary," Buchler said. "The support from the fans is now critical. If the club gets the kind of support that it should, there is a much better chance of surviving. If not, it will be difficult to carry on."

Nicholl: dismissed

Millwall need crowds of at least 12,000 at every home match to break even, but, at present, gates are averaging only half that. Buchler has not yet decided which players will be transfer-listed. "It would be counter-productive to sell the best ones because the club needs to get results on the pitch," he said.

Taylor is monitoring the situation closely. "While we appreciate Millwall's plight, a number of players, past and present, are owed a considerable amount of money," he said. "We won't tolerate anyone being pushed out the door unless there is mutual agreement." John Docherty, the former Millwall manager, has taken over from Nicholl, who was appointed a year ago.

Southend United, second from bottom in the first division, yesterday suspended Ronnie Whelan, their manager, and dismissed Theo Foley, his assistant. Whelan and Foley were banished from the touchline during Southend's 3-0 defeat against Manchester City at Maine Road on Saturday, having been angered by a series of incidents.

Vic Jobson, the Southend chairman, said: "Foley was senior in age and experience and should have restrained Whelan. I take a very serious view of it." Jobson will wait until he has seen the report of Graham Laws, the match referee, before deciding on Whelan's future.

Stuart Pearce was distracted from England duties yesterday when Manchester City tabled a bid of £2 million for Chris Bart-Williams, the Nottingham Forest midfield player, in a deal that would also see Tommy Wright, the goalkeeper, move to Maine Road and Nigel Clough to the City Ground, where they are at present on loan.

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